

Kinnock hurls Live Aid jibe at Thatcher

The Prime Minister clashed with Mr Neil Kinnock in the Commons yesterday as the Labour leader used the success of the Live Aid famine relief venture in an attempt to embarrass her over the Government's aid record.

Mr Kinnock, who leaves Britain tomorrow for a 12-day visit to Africa, in which he will see the relief work in action, upstaged Mr Margaret Thatcher when referring to the switch in resources within the aid budget by saying that the only way in which she was prepared to provide short-term aid to the starving was by robbing the hungry of the world.

He accused the Government of cutting its aid budget by 18 per cent in five years, reducing it by £40 million this year and of not adding a penny to the aid budget in spite of the crisis in Sudan and Ethiopia.

"With a record like that, what price the brotherhood of man?" he said.

Mr Kinnock said the Government had cut from aid a sum equivalent to 10 times what had been subscribed in the Live Aid concert.

Mrs Thatcher's annoyance in the Commons was plain when she said: "I am very proud of this Government's record in aid. That is what he cannot stand."

She said Mr Kinnock was comparing taxpayers' aid with voluntary aid. There had always been a place for voluntary aid.

Mr Kinnock, who will be accompanied by his wife, is to meet African leaders on his visit. Next Sunday, he is to board a RFA Hercules delivering food from Addis Ababa in the northern party of the country.

He is to see Mr Bettino Craxi, the Italian Prime Minister, Rome, on Friday, to Addis Ababa, where the Organization of African Unity is meeting at the weekend. Mr Kinnock will have talks with President Kenneth Kaunda, of Zambia, Major-General Gubari, head of state of Nigeria and Mr Robert Megaw, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe.

Next week he will go on to Tanzania, where he will meet President Nyerere, and later he will visit Zanzibar and Kenya.

While organizers are trying to trace the person who made a £6 million pledge to the Live Aid fund, the Prince of Wales has made an undisclosed contribution.

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Interest rates must fall if recovery is not to be threatened, CBI head says

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, yesterday criticized the Government's interest rates policy and said that the nation's economic recovery was under serious threat if levels did not drop quickly.

In a speech at a CBI conference on unemployment, Sir Terence said: "In January and February UK interest rates increased earlier and by greater amounts than other countries, but the UK has been very behind the pack when it comes to bringing them down."

Despite this week's half percentage point fall in rates, Sir Terence said that Britain was still well out of line with its main competitors. "Prompt action must be taken to reduce interest rates now that the exchange rate scare has been reduced."

Sterling had appreciated by 30 per cent since the beginning of the year against the dollar, but the dollar remained high. "Most of our trade is with Europe and when the pound is valued at over four Deutschmarks, and it rose above that last week, we risk losing the whole forward momentum of the present recovery."

Companies also needed to develop plans for upgrading and updating the skills of their workforce to meet the needs of changing technology, and to start planning immediately how they were going to introduce the two-year youth training scheme (YTS) next year.

Mr King added: "Even this may not be enough. In many places there are skill shortages, while in others skilled men are looking for work."

Firms could assist by advertising in areas of high unemployment and by helping to pay removal expenses and training. Companies could also consider subcontracting orders to firms in high unemployment areas.

Mr Brian Nicholson, chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, said he was now expecting private sector employers to establish 230 new projects under the Community Programme scheme and provide temporary jobs for 5,000 long-term unemployed people.

The programme had recently been expanded from 130,000 to 230,000 places and so far most of the 8,000 projects had been sponsored by local authorities and voluntary organizations.

Mr Nicholson called on companies to convert surplus company buildings into small starter units for new businesses or for education or community activities, to clear company land to enhance the environment, to help with restoration of historic buildings, and to become involved in amenities which would increase tourism.

British profitability had recovered strongly but was much lower than the returns achieved by its international competitors.

Call for retraining

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, yesterday called on industry and commerce to allocate 5 per cent of its annual payroll bill for training and retraining workers.

Speaking at the CBI conference, Mr King said that despite much increased resources available from the Government, the problem of resolving skill shortages rested with employers.

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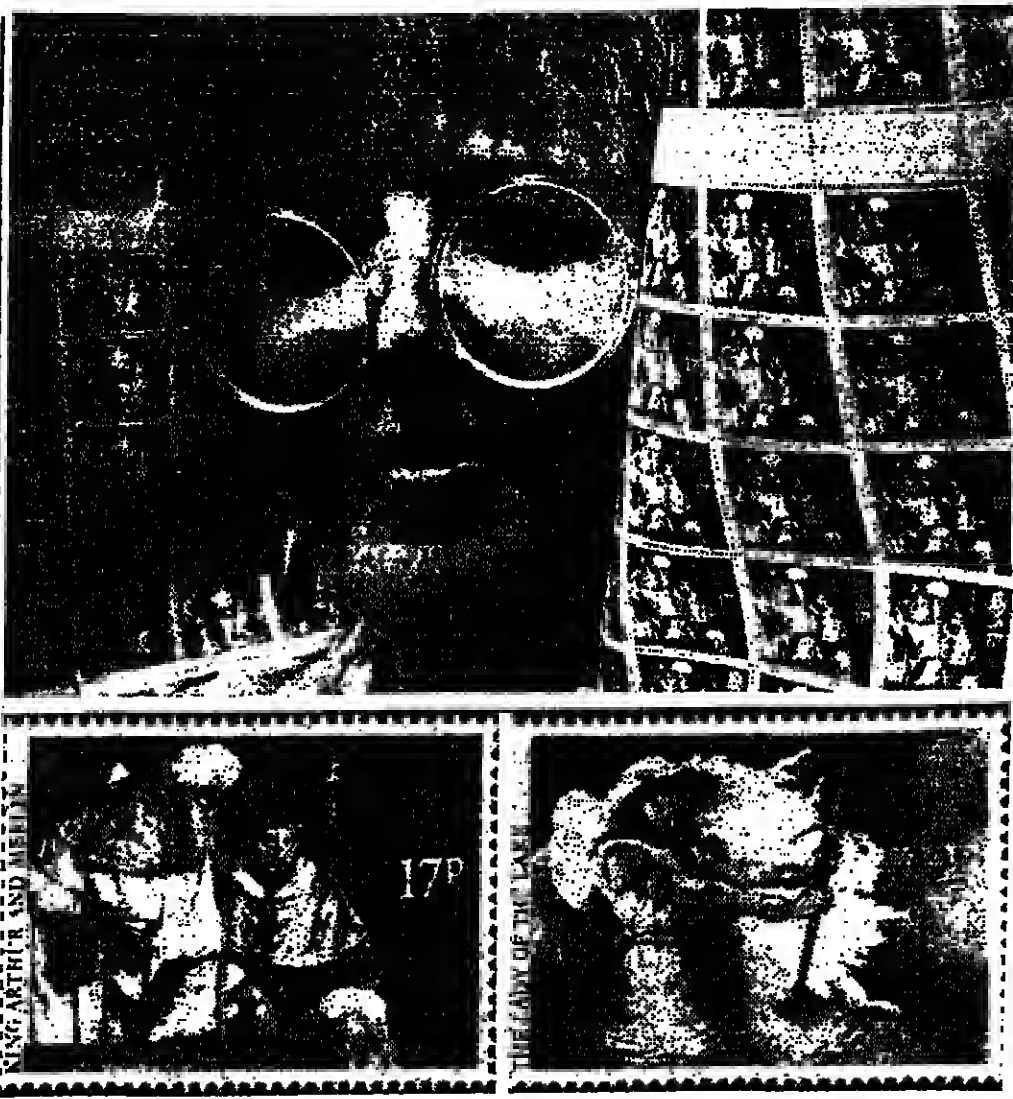
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Yvonne Gilbert, the designer of four stamps depicting scenes from Arthurian legend to be issued on September 3 to mark the five hundredth anniversary of the printing by Caxton of Malory's *Le Morte D'Arthur* (Top photograph: John Voos).

Managers blamed for computer plan losses

By Bill Johnston
Technology Correspondent

The management of the office automation project, Nexos, in which the taxpayer lost £24 million, has been seriously criticized in a report prepared by the Government's industrial advisers.

The report, published yesterday, was submitted to the Public Accounts Committee. Funding for the project, which was to give Britain advanced computer technology for modern electronic offices, came from the National Enterprise Board, later to become part of the British Technology Group.

The report said: "Nexos failed essentially because its management tried to do too much too quickly, having regard to the amount of NEB funding initially committed to it."

"In particular, a large organization was built up and Nexos effectively committed to a level of expenditure which was out of proportion to the gross profits being earned."

"This was in addition to the significant sums being spent on a development programme to develop new products. In the event, sales never reached the level necessary to cover Nexos's running expenses."

The study, by the Department of Trade and Industry, said the NEB believed office equipment to be a large market and did not want it to be dominated by foreign multinationals.

However, the report claims, the management had their own ideas on how to create an electronic office.

"Their basic approach was to develop from scratch a number of new products and at the same time to build very rapidly a large sales and marketing organization so that it would be ready when the first of those products became available."

No prosecution of consultant

The Director of Public Prosecutions has decided to take no action against Dr Ian Riach, a consultant radiologist at Goodhope hospital, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, against whom it was alleged that he had sexually abused patients while working for the National Health Service.

The West Midlands Regional Health Authority said yesterday that Dr Riach remained suspended from duty and disciplinary proceedings might yet be instituted.

Prince Michael returns alone

Prince Michael of Kent flew back to Britain alone yesterday after a week away on a Mediterranean sailing trip with his wife.

Kensington Palace said he had three long-standing engagements today. "The princess will be staying a little bit longer." She is understood still to be in the south of France.

Thatcher visit

The Prime Minister is to visit Washington DC next week to attend the conference of the International Democratic Union.

Head sues

Mr Ray Honeyford, head of a Bradford school who is at the centre of a race controversy, yesterday served a High Court writ on Bradford City Council over his suspension.

Nurses' pay settlement forces health area cuts

Continued from page 1

general surgical and a general medical ward and will close a ward for the elderly for six months.

Mr Malcolm Jeffries, its general manager, said the closures to meet a £350,000 shortfall in funding for pay awards "will inevitably mean people will have to wait longer to be admitted". Spending on medical equipment and fire precautions is also being cut.

York has postponed 240,000 of capital schemes and appointment of extra staff in acute and community services.

Mr Rodney Anness, the authority's principal accountant, said: "It is very frustrating to go to endless trouble to plan next year's services and suddenly find the goalsposts have been moved."

In Kettering, the shortfall in funding has added to difficulties in an authority already tending to overspend by up to £1 million.

Mr John Roch, its general manager, said: "We have appointed extra consultant staff who are anxious to do a day's work for a day's pay. There has been a considerable increase in activity which has outstripped our ability to meet the bill. The nurses' demand is just another unhelpful factor."

Kettering is cutting 50 posts, many of them nurses, and

closing a general practitioner maternity unit and a paediatric ward. Bloomsbury in London, which is already making savings of £6 million this year with the closure of the Golden Square Hospital, withdrawal of acute services at the National Temperance Hospital, and closure of 100 acute beds at its two teaching hospitals, said: "We just do not think we can achieve the extra £500,000 saving for pay this year."

Some health authorities are, however, coping more easily. North West Durham, for example, through efficiency savings and the closure of surplus maternity beds that it could meet this year's award.

Mr Philip Hunt, director of the National Association of Health Authorities, said: "The picture is very varied."

"Nationally we were given 4.5 per cent for pay and prices and 1 per cent for demographic growth, but with the pay awards not fully funded, all the money is going on pay and price increases, and many authorities are left using efficiency savings not for new developments but for demand on existing services."

"Most authorities can squeeze by this year, but if the award is not fully funded for next year there will be large cuts in services."

Breakaway pitmen's talks 'constructive'

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Leaders of the breakaway movement of the National Union of Mineworkers in the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire areas met formally for the first time yesterday to discuss the legal ramifications of leaving the miners' union.

Mr Roy Lynd of the Nottinghamshire area met Mr Ken Toon of South Derbyshire, accompanied by legal advisors, for talks that were described later as "friendly and constructive".

Both areas are committed to holding ballots before any breakaway movement is formed.

The meeting came as national leaders of the three mining unions met the National Coal Board in London to discuss the state of the industry in the wake of the strike.

Union officials leaving the meeting with Mr Ian MacGregor, the board chairman, said the management had refused to

entertain wholesale reinstatement of miners dismissed during or after the 12-month strike.

Mr Peter McNestry, general secretary of the pit deputies' union Nacods, said as he left the meeting with the board that the management said there was no possibility of meeting the union's demand for reinstatement.

The unions were also told by Mr John Northard, the recently appointed operations director, that productivity was now only 3 per cent below levels reached before the start of the miners' unions' overtime ban in November 1983.

Mr MacGregor was also asked about reports that a revised plan for coal envisaged the shutdown of 50 pits with the loss of 50,000 jobs.

He said that discussions on the board's future strategy had reached no conclusion.

Newspaper technology How NGA came to relax its grip

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Provincial management has been immeasurably strengthened by the deal on direct input with the National Graphical Association at the Portsmouth and Sunderland News group.

With a few extra concessions, the company has won an agreement allowing journalists and outside contributors to key material directly to typesetting machines, bypassing NGA compositors.

This settlement, agreed after nine hours of talks on Monday, thwarts the association's ambitions to "follow the work" from the composing room to the editorial floor, where copy will now be set by journalists.

The company has also issued a deadline for the introduction of single-keying from the advertising department where staff are represented by the print union Sogat'82. The union will almost certainly seek to exclude the NGA from any direct input deal.

But it would be a mistake to think that the Portsmouth agreement will lead to an overnight transformation of the industry. Most newspapers do not have the technology or expertise to

introduce direct input and many managers will be anxious to use existing equipment until it is due for replacement.

Other companies will have a young composing room staff which could not be reduced quickly through natural wastage.

More importantly, an earlier concession at Portsmouth which allowed for the transfer of three NGA men to journalistic duties, retaining association membership, will prove highly unpopular.

Such concessions will also prove unacceptable to the National Union of Journalists, whose members are showing an increasing antipathy towards the craft union.

To an important extent, however, the attitude of the journalists to the new general secretary who will be elected next week.

Other newspaper groups will be scrutinizing the deal with the NGA, which offers no extra pay, but which allows for a better pension and sickness scheme, an extra day holiday from October 1 and an extra two days from October next

year. There is also a guarantee on job security and an assurance that there will be no compulsory redundancy.

One significant concession by the NGA, is the agreement to allow the employment of unskilled "inputters" at £13 a week, compared with the NGA rate for compositors of £185 a week.

The East Anglian Daily Times, based at Ipswich, will be among those most interested. The company is hoping to conclude a direct input deal before the end of the year, and may be prepared to discuss a carefully circumscribed NGA presence on the editorial floor.

At Ipswich the NUJ and NGA have attempted to present a united front.

Other groups such as Thomson at Reading will prefer to achieve single-keying from the Sogat-organized advertising department first.

Owners of Fleet Street papers will be looking at the developments with some interest, but will conclude that the influence of Mr Eddie Shah and his new national newspaper is almost certain to overshadow events in the provinces.

Births 'an alert on pollution'

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Abnormal sex ratios of births may be early warning signs of the effects of industrial pollution or similar environmental health hazards.

An investigation into the high death rates and high incidence of lung cancer in two Scottish towns has shown an apparent link with increases in the number of male births.

"It is highly improbable that these specific associations were completely fortuitous," according to researchers at the Wolfson Institute of Occupational Health at Dundee University, who conducted the study.

The researchers found that there were "clusters" of lung cancers among residents living near a steel works in Armadale, West Lothian, during the 1970s, and that there was also a sudden rise in the sex ratio of male to female births.

They then carried out a similar study in the neighbouring town of Bathgate, where a link could be established between lung cancer, sex ratio of births and air pollution.

The results published in the *British Journal of Industrial Medicine* this week, were similar.

Pollution from steel works in both towns has declined in the past 10 years and the health and birth factors do not relate to present conditions.

Other research has shown that abnormal sex ratios of births may occur as a result of exposure to industrial pollution.

Further studies of other Scottish communities with high lung cancer death rates and possible exposure to industrial pollution are now being undertaken. Should the same links be established, the sex ratios of births in populations could be used to obtain early warning of toxins in the environment, the researchers say.

Although secrecy had been "hammered into the psyche" of Whitehall officials, they were not the main barrier, since most individuals believed a more open approach was the best way to protect information which really should be secret.

The real problem lay with politicians unwilling to relinquish the power they gained from secret information. He accused the Government of being hypocritical and cynical in applauding itself on forcing local authorities to open up, while refusing to put its own house in order.

Mr Wilson said that such resistance was futile since a British freedom of information Act was "practicable and inevitable" to maintain the nation's democratic health.

Mr Paul C. Warnke, former chief US strategic arms negotiator at the Salt II talks, said: "We have to get a Strategic Defence Initiative (star wars plan) off centre stage. It tended to dominate disarmament discussions."

Professor Lawrence Friedman, of the department of war studies at King's College London, said that President Reagan had said that nuclear weapons could be made obsolete. "This is something that cannot be delivered."

TV link call to assess nuclear fear

A suggestion that there should be a worldwide television link so that the fears of ordinary people could be taken into account in nuclear disarmament talks was made by an American defence expert yesterday.

Mr Elliott Richardson, former US Ambassador to Britain, said that nine tenths of the world's population were not represented at disarmament talks. It was extraordinary that they had been so passive.

He told the meeting: "Most of us feel like the young people who watched Live Aid around the world: there must be some means whereby our feelings as citizens could be communicated to people who seem to be engaged in a ritualistic protest in which our ability to achieve action is constrained by their need to score points for their sides or by fear that concessions they make will be somehow repudiated at home."

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Cost of London living rises by 11.5 per cent

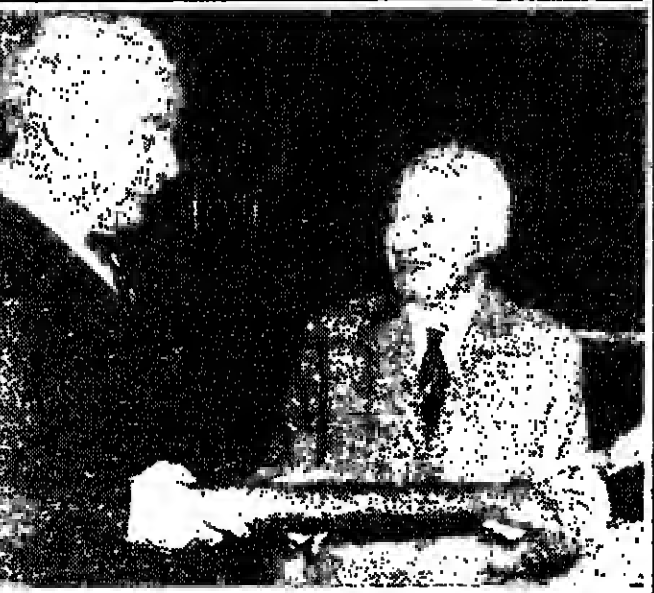
By Our Labour Reporter

Londoners need an extra £30 a week to enjoy the same standard of living as those in similar jobs in the provinces, according to the Incomes Data Services organization.

The research group's London Weighting Index, which is used to calculate pay rises for 2,500,000 workers in public and private sectors, has risen by an unprecedented 11.5 per cent this year.

A £131 rise in the inner London allowance to £1,464, and a £62 increase in the outer London allowance to £598 are recommended by the group.

The organization's report says that the most important factor in the increased cost of living is the sustained rise in the cost of mortgages and transport.



Lord Shinnell (right) at the House of Lords yesterday being presented by with a diploma for his honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, by Dr J. Steven Watson, Vice-Chancellor of St Andrews University.

American Bar Association • Freedom warning • Clash over changes • Nuclear warning

'Risks' in a Bill of Rights

A British Bill of Rights on the United States' model, intended to enshrine and protect fundamental freedoms, would run the risk of creating political judges, Mr Robert Alexander, QC, told a plenary session of the convention.

"In the United Kingdom today there is neither the consensus to create a new constitutional settlement, nor the crisis to compel one," he said.

However, he supported a Bill shortly to be presented in Parliament by Lord Scarman, who chaired the session, which proposed that the British Government should fully incorporate the European Convention of Human Rights into British law.

Mr Alexander rejected claims that liberties were adequately protected in Britain, that vague language in a Bill of Rights would make it ineffective, or that present constitutional flexibility was preferable.

Instead, the practical result of such a Bill of Rights would be to erode Parliament's supremacy and place it in the judges' hands.

Mr Nicholas Lyell, QC, Conservative MP for Bedfordshire, Mid., argued against incorporating the European Convention because Britain had no power to amend it singlehandedly, as the Americans could amend their constitution, but only with the agreement of 16 other signatory nations.

Managers blamed for computer plan losses

By Bill Johnston
Technology Correspondent

The management of the automation project, which cost the taxpayer £10 million, has been criticised in a report by the Government's advisers.

The report, published by the Public Accounts Committee, was submitted to the House of Commons last week. It was a criticism of the project, which was to give British Telecom a computer system for the management of its electronic mail service.

The report said that the project had been managed in a way that was "not in line with good practice". It also said that the project had been "over budget and over time".

The report also said that the project had been "poorly planned and poorly executed". It also said that the project had been "poorly managed and poorly controlled".

The report also said that the project had been "poorly monitored and poorly evaluated". It also said that the project had been "poorly communicated and poorly supported".

No prosecution of consultant

The Director of Public Prosecutions has decided not to prosecute a consultant who was involved in the design of a bridge that collapsed.

The consultant, who was named as Mr. [Name], was involved in the design of a bridge that collapsed in 1983. The bridge was designed by Mr. [Name] and was built by [Company].

The bridge collapsed on 19th July 1983, killing 11 people and injuring 28 others.

Prince Michael returns alone

Prince Michael of Kent has returned to the United Kingdom alone, after a period of absence.

Prince Michael, who is 37 years old, has been in the United States for the past few months. He was in the United States to visit his mother, Princess Anne, who is also in the United States.

Thatcher visit

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, is expected to visit the United States in the near future.

Head sues

A man who was injured in a car accident has sued the driver of the car.

The man, who is 45 years old, was injured in a car accident on 15th June 1985. The accident occurred on a road near [Location].

settlement

A settlement has been reached between the two parties in a long-running dispute.

area cuts

Cuts in the number of staff in a local authority have been announced.

150mph Jaguar continues V12 rehabilitation

By Clifford Webb
Motoring Correspondent

A new 150mph Jaguar, the XJS Cabriolet HE, goes on sale today. It is one of the world's fastest open-top cars, and continues the rehabilitation of the company's outstanding 12-cylinder, 5.3-litre engine.

Launched nearly 10 years ago in the XJS coupe, the big V12 engine was almost forced out of production by the oil crisis of the late 1970s. In 1980, only 800 a year were being made.

This year the company will make nearly 10,000.

Fuel consumption was improved from about 10 miles a gallon to more than 14 miles a gallon and sales began to recover.

The speed of the resurgence caught Jaguar napping. It has

MPs want water board meetings opened to public

By Richard Evans
Lobby Reporter

The Government was urged by a Commons select committee yesterday to make it compulsory for water authorities to conduct their meetings in public.

After the Water Act, 1983, which repealed legislation requiring authorities to admit the Press and public to their meetings, only the Welsh water authority has continued to allow the public to witness its proceedings.

But the Public Accounts Committee, Parliament's public spending watchdog, says in a report that water authorities are not as accountable to the

public as nationalised industries which they resemble.

"The position of the water authorities as monopoly suppliers of essential services indicates to us the need for as much public accountability as possible, consistent with efficiency and effectiveness in the conduct of their affairs."

While the MPs recognize that one aim of the 1983 legislation was to promote a more businesslike approach by water authorities, the MPs add: "Like the Welsh water authority, we do not regard the pursuit of such an approach as inconsistent with conducting business in public."

The nine English water authorities hold Press conferences after their meetings, in line with a code of practice endorsed by ministers, and argue that coverage has improved in quality and quantity.

But the MPs say: "We think that in striking the balance between the claims of accountability at national and regional levels insufficient regard has been given in England and Wales to the regional dimension."

Eighteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts: Monitoring and Control of the Water Authorities (Stationery Office £6.30).

● The Government was accused yesterday of ignoring or evading the "inconvenient" provisions of an EEC directive

Misadventure verdict on the child stripper who died in council care

By Michael Horsnell

Michelle Bartlett, aged 14 and the product of a broken home, died from a drugs overdose after becoming a Soho stripper while in council care.

The life of the sometimes hysterical girl from south London who craved affection was outlined at an inquest yesterday - but no action is being taken to see that the tragedy does not recur.

Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster Coroner, who was told that the child was taken into voluntary care by Wandsworth Borough Council in January, decided to make no recommendation to the local authority.

The council, which took her in when her father said he could not cope with her, said later that confinement would not have been a solution.

Social workers at the child's home where she was taken in, Wina Road, Wandsworth, found her a pleasant child, though one who demanded constant attention. But Mr Gwyn Williams, the manager of the home, where some of the staff are untrained, told the inquest he did not believe the point had been reached at which a secure order was necessary.

So Michelle remained in voluntary care under section 2 of the Child Care Act, 1980, while her father remained in technical charge.

By April, Michelle had begun to abscond occasionally, and on April 25 she disappeared for two weeks.

At about that time, according to police evidence at the inquest in Battersea, she twice appeared as a stripper at the Carnival Club in Old Compton Street, Soho, where she was paid £2.50 a performance. On April 30, she attended an audition at the Sunset Strip Club in Dean Street nearby.

Michelle, whose mother has

remarried and now lives in Wales, returned to the home on May 7, a few days after the death from cancer of Mr John Craven, a social worker, on whom she had an unfulfilled crush.

Miss Tracy Peters, an untrained social worker at the home, told the inquest that on May 10 Michelle gave her a hug and took her arm when they met in the afternoon.

Shortly afterwards, she asked Miss Peters: "What happens when you take a drug overdose?"

Miss Peters said: "I thought it was just one of her things she does to make an impact. I just told her in a matter-of-fact way what happened. She went upstairs again and then came back to the kitchen. With her was a picture of John Craven. She was clutching her stomach in what I thought was a very exaggerated way, bending double and holding the photo. I asked what was wrong and she said she had stomach ache."

She did not believe Michelle, who had once pretended that some talcum powder she had in a bag was cocaine, especially

when she jumped off the kitchen table without pain and followed her upstairs.

In Michelle's bedroom, the girl showed her two empty tablet containers and claimed she had swallowed their contents.

Ms Peters still did not believe her, but 20 minutes later when she returned to the room, she could not rouse Michelle and found vomit on the floor.

Michelle was taken to St George's Hospital, Tooting, and was found clinically dead. Her heart was eventually restarted but she died on May 16.

The inquest was told that paracetamol and penicillin were found in her blood and there were no traces of hard drugs.

Mr Paul Ballat, a senior social worker, told the inquest that although it had been suggested Michelle was taking morphine there was no evidence.

Dr Knapman recorded a verdict of misadventure and said that Michelle died from cerebral anoxia due to cardiac arrest.

He said he did not believe that Michelle intended to kill herself and he had no recommendation to make to the local authority.

Mrs Ann Guthrie, 41, Michelle's aunt, whose home the girl frequently visited, said: "The inquest was a whitewash. What Michelle needed was a properly supervised home with a mother figure to look after her, not people only a few years older. Michelle was a very unhappy child who craved affection."

Mr Leo Goodman, director of social services for Wandsworth, said after the inquest that Michelle's case will be examined to see whether there are ways to stop such a tragedy happening again.

Michelle Bartlett, a stripper at 14

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Alberto Vidal, a specimen of Urban Man, with Dilberta the elephant at London Zoo yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Urban Man finds his place in the zoo

By Alan Hamilton

Visitors to Regent's Park looked on in puzzled amusement yesterday as London Zoo unveiled its latest exhibit, a specimen of *Homo sapiens urbanus* on loan from Madrid.

The animal will be on display in its own enclosure on Saturday and Sunday; visitors will be able to watch it waking up, shaving, brushing its teeth, dressing in a dark suit and tie, and sitting at a desk shuffling papers.

This particular specimen is otherwise known as Alberto Vidal, a Spanish mime artist who has abandoned the traditional theatre in favour of airports, railway stations, and pavements: he was exhibited recently at a zoo in Miami. His performance at London Zoo forms part of this year's London

International Festival of Theatre.

"In a zoo, you study the animals' behaviour. I ask the public to look at my actions as if they were discovering life all over again," Mr Vidal said.

Passers-by who happened upon yesterday's preview did not really know what to make of it. One woman thought it was "really weird", while a party of schoolchildren giggled.

Watchers were, frankly, much more fascinated by the behaviour patterns of a herd of *Homo neanderthalis* journalists, an aggressive animal which constantly fights for top position in the pack, emits low unintelligible grunts and adopts a variety of curious acrobatic semi-crouching positions while stalking its prey.

Some claims made in advertisements for the Sinclair C5 electric vehicle are to be amended or withdrawn after an investigation by the Advertising Standards Authority.

The British Safety Council and 16 members of the public raised objections to various claims made in national press advertising at the time of the launch of the C5, an authority spokesman said.

Of five complaints, one was not upheld, and the authority has asked the manufacturers to amend future advertising or delete claims.

The only advertised claim upheld was Sinclair's assertion that safety organizations "have welcomed a new vehicle for young people". The authority said that that was borne out.

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New move to save Lyceum as theatre

The composer Andrew Lloyd Webber last night offered to head a consortium to restore London's Lyceum Theatre, only a day before the GLC is due to give planning permission for the building to become a permanent discotheque.

The Lyceum, which is just off the Strand, was built in 1834 and reconstructed in 1904. Its use has become a cause célèbre among London's stage companies.

It was last regularly used as a theatre in 1939, when John Gielgud appeared as Hamlet. It reopened after the war as a dance hall run by the Mecca company, which still owns the lease.

At present it has been temporarily let for the National Theatre's season of *The Mysterians*, but Mecca, which is owned by Grand Metropolitan, has applied for permission to continue the use as a dance hall and convert the backstage rooms into a restaurant and kitchen.

At least three groups are interested in buying Mecca's lease to restore the Lyceum to full-time use as a theatre.

Sir John Gielgud, Mr Harry Andrews, Mr Andrew Cruickshank and Mr Marius Goring, who were in the 1939 company which closed at the theatre to the words "Long live the Lyceum! Long live Ellen Terry! Long live Henry Irving!"

recently wrote to *The Times* supporting its reopening.

Mr Lloyd Webber said yesterday that the Lyceum was one of the great musical houses of the world. "I would love to be able to lend my weight to whatever is necessary to reopen it permanently as a theatre."

Mr George Nicholson, chairman of the GLC's planning committee, denied yesterday that the changes envisaged by Mecca would prevent the Lyceum reverting to theatre use and said he would support the company's application.

Some GLC councillors believed that popular music deserved to have a home in the West End just as much as theatre, he said.

Mr Paddison said that when they arrived, Mr Askew told the children they had 45 minutes and might want to visit the gift shop. He then told the children to follow Mr Paddison and another teacher off the coach and down to the point. "Mr Askew said 'stick to the paths and no running'. He was quite specific on that point," Mr Paddison added.

He said that as far as he was aware none of the children had broken away.

As Mr Paddison was attempting to organize photographs, he learned that Heather Price was in the water.

Mr Paddison began to run

Inquest lawyers clash over advice to children at cliffs

There was a sharp exchange between solicitors representing parents of drowned Stoke Poges schoolboys and the headmaster at the inquest in Penzance yesterday. It happened when Mr David Paddison, one of two parent-lawyers, was being questioned on the instructions given to the children on the trip to Land's End where four were swept to their deaths from the foot of some cliffs.

The children who died were: Ricci Larden, aged 11, of Stoke Court Drive, Nicholas Hurst, aged 10, of Freeman's Close, James Holloway, aged 11, of Elizabeth Way, and Robert Ankers, aged 12, of Eldersfield Road, all in Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire.

Mr Michael Napier, representing the parents of James Holloway and Robert Ankers, suggested there had been an "almost chaotic free-for-all" when the children got off the coach at Land's End. Immediately objection came from Mr Donald Thompson, representing Mr Askew, the headmaster, who said that was "gratuitous comment" on a case that he bitterly regretted.

Mr Paddison was asked the question three times before he agreed that the children were free to go where they wanted within the bounds of the top of the cliff.

Mr Paddison, a builder from Slough, Berkshire, had helped to rescue Heather Price while she clung to a rock below the high-water level.

Mr Paddison said that when they arrived, Mr Askew told the children they had 45 minutes and might want to visit the gift shop. He then told the children to follow Mr Paddison and another teacher off the coach and down to the point. "Mr Askew said 'stick to the paths and no running'. He was quite specific on that point," Mr Paddison added.

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PARLIAMENT JULY 16 1985

Geldof praised

Bureaucracy curbed

Rates checked

Voluntary aid praised: state aid defended

FAMINE RELIEF

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, gave an intervention in the House of Commons questioning the R.A.F. Hercules airlift of food and other emergency aid in Ethiopia may be extended. It was due to cease at the end of September.

She robustly defended the Government's aid record in the face of a charge by Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, that the only way in which she was prepared to provide short-term aid to the starving was by robbing the hungry of the world.

Opening exchanges on the famine in sub-Saharan Africa and the Live Aid appeal, Mr Kinnock said he joined Mrs Thatcher in her praise for the performers and contributors to Live Aid.

As she has said (Mr Kinnock continued) it was humanity in action, by the same token it is not humanity in action when the government cuts 18 per cent of its aid budget in real terms in five years; when that same government reduces the aid budget by £40 million in this year, and when that government in spite of all the emergency in Sudan and Ethiopia over the last two years has not added one single penny to the aid budget except for the Hercules which she is thinking of withdrawing.

With a record like that, what price the brotherhood of man then?

Mrs Thatcher: He is comparing taxpayers' aid with voluntary aid. There has always been a place for voluntary aid. Voluntary services have done a great deal of overseas relief. In the year to March 1985 we spent £95m on famine relief operations in Africa. This year we expect to spend at least £60 million.

The Minister for Overseas Development (Mr Timothy Raison) is now in Ethiopia considering the needs for the future months and especially the need to keep on with the Hercules.

Mr Kinnock: I am more than prepared to compare government aid, taxpayers' aid, with the charitable contributions made freely by people in this country.

Limited list scrutiny next week

PRESCRIBING

Many doctors no longer perceived a need for the kind of appeals mechanism against the exclusion of drugs from NHS prescribing which had been discussed. Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, said he added that the advisory committee on drugs announced last Friday would meet for the first time on July 23.

Mr Michael Latham (Rutland and Melton, C): Since doctors do not want a personal appeals system, can we be assured that the new review committee will get on quickly with reviewing the list, because there are a dozen drugs which doctors and patients seem to believe should be restored to the list as quickly as possible.

Mr Clarke: Yes, but I can give no commitment that they will be restored to the list because there is a genuine division of medical opinion. All those excluded have been included on the unanimous opinion of experts who see no need for them. Mr Michael Howard (Folkestone and Hythe, C): Can he ensure that Microdysid is drawn to the attention of the committee at the earliest possible moment?

Mr Clarke: It will be considered at the first meeting.

DIFFERENT VIEW NOW ON STEELWORKS

RAVENSCLIFF

Those now pleading for more money for Ravenscliff steelworks in Scotland were the very people who were anxious to close it down last year during the coal strike.

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, stated in the Commons during the question time.

She was replying to Mrs Anna McCorley, Renfrew West and Inverclyde, C who said: In the light of the optimistic economic forecast by the chairman of the British Steel Corporation (Mr Roh Haslam) would Mrs Thatcher comment on the future of Ravenscliff?

Would she also like to comment on the fact that those of the Left who are most vociferous about it were the ones that were prepared to make it a sacrificial lamb at the time of the miners' strike?

Mrs Thatcher: Mrs McCorley is correct. The results announced by BSC are the best for ten years. Because of the coal strike there was a £180 million loss. But for the fact of that strike, there would have been a profit of some £30 million.

I agree with her about Ravenscliff. The people there worked through the strike and struggled nobly and successfully to keep it going.

It was not advisable to rely on the exchange rate for competitiveness. Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in the Commons when Mr Roy Jenkins (Glasgow, Hillhead, SDP) asked what she would do to prevent the exchange rate repeating its disastrous 1981 effect on British industry.

Mrs Thatcher said she had no reason to think that the present exchange rate was adverse to British industry. The point is, higher against the dollar (she added) which means we get our materials and semi-fabricated components in at a lesser price.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C): Would she accept that a substantial reduction in interest rates would do such for British industry, that it would be far to the advantage of British industry and therefore would outweigh any disadvantage to the value of the pound?

Would she have a word with the Bank of England and get the British banking system to act in the interests of manufacturing industry in the UK?

Mrs Thatcher: There are many interests which have to be considered in the determination of interest rates. When the pound went down seriously it was damaging for the reputation of Britain and for British industry and for inflation.

We shall keep interest rates at whatever level is needed to maintain downward pressure on inflation, but no higher than that.

PLEA FOR SHIPS TO BE BUILT IN BRITAIN

The Prime Minister was urged to show what sort of woman she was by showing some compassion to the shipyard workers on Tyneside who worked so hard during the Falklands war.

"They are British," said Mr Harry Covan (Tynebridge, Lab) when he called on her to visit Trinity House and take the Secretary of State for Transport (Mr Nicholas Ridley) with her - even if it was on a lead (Laughter) - and discuss with them their efforts to try to get the Tyneside shipyard built in this country.

All they, said the MP, is for her to match the offer to pay back the efforts of the shipbuilders of Tyneside who built the Endeavour when the Falklands was on and who built the Aca Royal.

Mr Thatcher replied: The gap in price between the price quoted in Korea and from British shipbuilders was too great to be bridged in any way under the intervention system.

There are a couple of oak pedestal tables with a good colour, which he calls Georgian and expects to sell at about £60. They are always useful sitting room furniture, perfect for drinks trays or coffee.

There is an oak drop-leaf table with turned legs and stretchers, it has been restored but probably started out in the seventeenth century and he hopes to get £200 to £250 for it.

Getting more ambitious, there is a rambling eighteenth-century wardrobe of pale oak with pained doors and two drawers below. It has good detail but needs restoration. In a previous sale he could not get the £500 the owner wanted for it; this time he is looking for £400.

The pictures are upstairs, oils, watercolours and prints. For the traditional taste there is a view of a country mansion with a waterfall by Richard Frederick Leach, the North Devon artist. It might set you back £300 to £400. Or there is a horse portrait, a chestnut called "Let-Me-Gin" in his stable, painted by H. H. Jones in 1904 and estimated around £150 to £200.

Sporting cognoscenti with less money to burn may prefer to punt £10 or so on a print of Fred Archer, the famous jockey, issued in 1886, the year he died.

And speaking of prints, the pair of round stipple engravings in gold frames which date from about 1800 would do well with your own, at £30 or so. Alternatively, there are six oval

Baratov prints, after paintings by Angelica Kauffmann, expected to fetch about £100.

Whitton & Laing hold weekly general sales, one antique sale a month, and occasional sales of pictures, coins, silver and books. They handle at last one house sale a week, and no buyer's premium is charged if any of their sales.

If you are not chummy, what they look like, Whitton will sell you beds, sofas, armchairs or wardrobes for 50p or even 10p. "Nobody wants that sort of stuff at the moment!" Mr

Whitton says, as he watches a trailer load of furniture leave his yard for the local tip, the left-overs of last week's general sale.

The market is less buoyant across the board than it was two months ago, he says. The stronger pound is hard for exporters and that has a knock-on effect across the market. Conversely, it is a good time to buy.

Results of this sale will be reported on Monday. Sale Room, page 14

Moves to cut out the red tape

BUSINESS

The Government intends to create more jobs by reducing bureaucracy and regulations affecting small businesses, Lord Young of Grafton, Minister without Portfolio, told the House of Lords in a statement.

He said that the Government had published a White Paper, *Lifting the Burden*, designed to reduce the drain on business and management time spent in dealing with regulations. But he emphasized that it was intended to maintain essential protection for workers, consumers and the public.

Lord Young of Grafton: One of the major objectives of this Government is to make sure that the right conditions exist for enterprise to flourish. This is essential for the creation of jobs and wealth.

The country needs more jobs and we need more wealth to pay for all the socially desirable things we expect to be provided - such as pensions, the health service and education.

For far too long successive governments - albeit with good intentions - have tended to stifle much needed enterprise with restriction and regulation. Today, we are publishing a White Paper called *Lifting the Burden* which sets out what that situation might be.

As the House will recall, in March of this year, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry published a report entitled *Burdens on Business*. This showed that Government requirements do constitute a major drain on business - particularly small business - in terms of direct cost and of management time.

Lifting the Burden is the result of the Government's consideration of the recommendations in that report and of looking more widely at the scope for change. It also takes into account representations on the report which the Government has received.

The White Paper is the first major step in a continuing programme of removing unnecessary regulations. It refers to some 80 measures covering a wide range of initiatives in a number of areas including company law, social security, employment protection, and trade and industry - some of which have already been undertaken and some of which are for the future.

Mr Nicholas (Macclesfield, C): Would she accept that a substantial reduction in interest rates would do such for British industry, that it would be far to the advantage of British industry and therefore would outweigh any disadvantage to the value of the pound?

Would she have a word with the Bank of England and get the British banking system to act in the interests of manufacturing industry in the UK?

Mrs Thatcher: There are many interests which have to be considered in the determination of interest rates. When the pound went down seriously it was damaging for the reputation of Britain and for British industry and for inflation.

We shall keep interest rates at whatever level is needed to maintain downward pressure on inflation, but no higher than that.

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COMPLYING WITH BUREAUCRATIC REQUIREMENTS AND TOWARDS DEVELOPING AND EXPANDING THEIR BUSINESS.

This is but the beginning of the process, for one of the most important elements in the White Paper is the setting up of a new system within Government to assess proposed and existing regulations from the point of view of the burden they may impose on business.

The primary responsibility for this must be within the appropriate department but a central task force is being set up, within the enterprise unit in the Cabinet Office, to assist departments in their consideration of how the burden on business of regulations can be minimised.

We are not seeking to remove all regulations, all regulations, essential protection for workers, consumers and the general public must be maintained.

The Government has sought to strike the right balance between liberty and license. The White Paper adopts a balanced approach. It represents a major step forward in giving businesses the freedom to flourish and grow.

Lord Barnett, for the Opposition, said the gimmicks they had seen in the past like enterprise zones had done little or nothing to help industry small or large and in some cases had even done harm.

In the past six years they had seen company liquidations at the highest level ever.

How would the proposals affect companies who had some cost moved to enterprise zones to obtain assistance from deregulation? One of the major constraints on small companies was the shortage of risk capital. Lord Young said nothing about what the Government proposed to do about the loan guarantee scheme. Was it to continue or to be scrapped because of what had become its somewhat high cost?

One of the greatest burdens on small companies at present was the problem of administering pay-as-you-earn and in particular benefits are on the way back to the unentrepreneurial society which made us great.

The Government was concerned with bureaucratic burdens which fell upon small and large firms. In the course of this very week a consultative document would be going out which would endeavour to give an opportunity for small employers to have the burden lifted from them.

Lord Diamond (SDP) said that far from slitting down the Govern-

ment had taken a number of steps today industry the necessary nourishment. It had gone far too far. Any steps which would enable scarce resources to be diverted from firm-filling into getting orders and looking after manufacturers and so on were welcome.

To what extent did the Government intend to consult Parliament on the various steps it was taking? The statement referred to the protection of employees. Many took the view that small employers needed as much help in turning themselves into good employers as large employers did.

It was necessary to make sure that employees in small firms were fully protected and that there were not too many so-called removals of bureaucratic requirements. These were thought to be proper when they were instituted by one government or another.

Lord Young of Grafton said some enterprise zones had prospered very well. Lord Barnett had talked about

the highest level of liquidations for small firms. In the 1980s self-employed. So far in this decade we have created 600,000 self-employed people and 140,000 more businesses have started than have closed. We are on the way back to the unentrepreneurial society which made us great.

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BLAIR: OBSESSION WITH DEREGULATION

Mr Blair, for the Opposition, wondered whether the White Paper was just another Government gimmick to distract attention from unemployment and the problems of the economy. Was it about curbing unnecessary bureaucracy or about subordinating vital protections for consumers and employees in the interests of an ideological obsession with deregulation?

Why was planning procedure given such prominence? Any loss of standards in fire regulations or health and safety regulations would be unacceptable. Was the risk of mishap less with small businesses? The evidence indicated the contrary.

This was a shabby and irrelevant document. Would a single job be created?

Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, accused Mr Blair of ribaldry and cat-calling in response to the Government's attempt to try to create jobs. Regulations meant fewer jobs.

Mr Blair did not seem to be aware of the degree to which planning procedures had inhibited the growth of jobs.

The White Paper stated that the Government was committed to maintaining the necessary protection and had no intention of downgrading health and safety standards generally or in relation to small firms.

Sir Peter Harder (Horsham, C): Is there anything in these measures which will raise the level at which VAT is to be paid?

Mr Moore: The threshold below which firms are exempted is the maximum permitted under EEC law. The Government believes member states should have more flexibility to lose to courts their VAT threshold if they wish. This goal is being pursued through the initiative launched by the Prime Minister.

speech, the Prime Minister was correct about my support grant. There was no middle way for this Government with RSG. There was only one way, down, down, down: so far down in fact that the total accumulated loss to councils in England in RSG alone since 1979 as a result of the cuts imposed by this Government, was a staggering £16.4 billion.

In 1986 alone the total grant was £3.8 billion lower than when Labour left office in 1979, at 1985-86 prices.

Those-the said are real cuts, and cuts that hurt millions of people as councils of all political persuasions are caught in the Government's financial vice, or perhaps "one should say" vices.

Labour unequivocally condemned violence. It had no place in a democratic community. Labour deferred to the minister not one iota in their condemnation of the unacceptable events over the last few months.

But the added the Government cannot evade its responsibility for the social climate in this country. The attitude often struck by the Prime Minister herself in these situations, with her aggression and her uncaring attitude, can only be described as provocative.

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Depositors not owners of bank

TSB BILL

If the pursuer in an action for interdict at the Edinburgh Court of Session were to succeed in obtaining a judgement against the trustees of TSB Scotland, the Government would consider the subsequent action in the light of that judgement.

Mr Ian Stewart, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said during consideration in the Commons early on Tuesday of amendments to the Trustee Savings Bank Bill.

Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee East, Lab) moving an amendment to exclude Trustee Savings Bank Scotland from the Bill's provisions unless a majority of depositors had first given their assent in a postal ballot, said the Government should at least test the strength of its position by this means before transferring the assets to its friends in the City. He could not see what possible objection there could be to going to the depositors and getting their agreement.

Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said it was clear that the new TSB was having a difficult birth. The position was peculiar. There was an action pending in the courts, an action for interdict. It would be a rather strange situation if the Court of Session were to hold that ownership lay with the depositors and granted an interdict on that basis.

A substantial shift was envisaged in the Bill. The ethos of the TSB was that it served its depositors. They were not owners. The trustees would have a totally different remit.

They would be bound by the Companies Act and their job would be to maximise the profit for the benefit of a totally different body of people, the shareholders of the new company. They would be doing it by extracting profit from the depositors and that was a very different sort of atmosphere from the one the TSB had been used to.

There was a clear case for consultation. The depositors had a particular interest and therefore should be consulted before embarking on this legislation. The Government considered the legal position very carefully and was satisfied that there was no element of expropriation in the Bill.

The difficulty of the constitutional position of the TSBs was that the depositors were not the owners. In 1976 the Government introduced a provision that 25 per cent of the trustees of each TSB should be elected by the depositors. Those elections took place, but in almost every case they were not contested.

He could not accept that, faced with that degree of lack of enthusiasm by the depositors, it would be right at this late stage to introduce half-backed procedures for consultation with depositors who did not have the advantage of statutory provisions specifically included in the 1976 legislation to give them the opportunity to express their opinions.

The amendment was rejected by 139 votes to 69, a Government majority of 70. The amendments were disagreed with.

Earlier the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, said Mr Gordon Wilson had asked him to consider whether the Bill might be hybrid. The business before the House was the consideration of the Trustee Savings Bank Bill. No individual bank or depositor in Scotland was singled out for adverse treatment from among the class of TSB banks or depositors in Scotland by these amendments and a question of hybridity therefore arose.

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TOP SHOP

There is no better advertisement for our retailing flair.

DEBENHAMS

There is no better advertisement for Debenhams lack of it.

The battle for the hearts and minds of Debenhams shareholders cannot simply be fought with arid pieces of paper.

The sharp end is on the sales floor.

As a shareholder, visit any Debenhams store and see where your money is being put to work.

And ask yourself just how hard it is working.

Do you see a store full of fresh ideas, innovative design, and sheer retailing flair?

Or is it a sprawling pot-pourri of departments more akin to "Are you being served"?

Then take a trip to a Top Shop.

It's welcoming. It's bright. It's lively.

And it's a testament to the ability of Ralph Halpern and his team to precisely target the market for the benefit of their shareholders.

At a glance you'll see why the Burton Group's retailing profits are way in excess of anything ever achieved by Debenhams current management.

At a glance you'll know why it's in your interests to accept the Burton offer.

With Halpern and Conran there will be life after Debenhams.

Rates check

Deposits not owned of bank

TSB BILL

If the pursuer in an interdict at the Edinburgh Session were to succeed, TSB Scotland, the Government would consider action in the light of the Mr Ian Stewart, Secretary to the Treasury, consideration to the amendments to the Bank Bill.

Mr Gordon Wilson (the SNP) moving an amendment to exclude TSB from Scotland from the bill, first given notice of debate, said the Government position was that the transfer of the assets of the bank to the new bank would be a transfer of the assets of the bank to the new bank.

Mr Donald Dewar, the spokesman for the Government, said that the Government was not prepared to accept the amendment, but that it was open to the Government to consider it.

There was a further amendment to the bill, moved by Mr Stewart, which would have required the Government to provide a guarantee for the new bank.

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Bill now law

Pilgrimage museum in Canterbury

By Norman Hamer

Archbishop of Canterbury

The Archbishop of Canterbury has announced that he will be visiting the United States in the autumn.

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Regan confirms role as White House supremo during president's illness

From Michael Binyon, Washington

One immediate effect of President Reagan's illness has been the strengthening of the position of Mr Donald Regan, the White House chief of staff.

It was he who took the vital decisions on how the Administration was to be run during the operation - with Mr Regan in hospital, he is virtually the sole political link with the outside world - and it is Mr Regan who will be in day-to-day charge during the President's convalescence.

But his key role in the Administration, overshadowing that of Vice-President George Bush, who has not seen or spoken to the President since Saturday, has been emerging since he swapped jobs with the former Treasury Secretary, Mr James Baker, in February.

Mr Regan is in sole and undisputed charge at the White House. He organizes the President's schedule, controls access to him, shapes political strategy and executes his policies.

The 66-year-old former head of the Wall Street stockbrokers firm of Merrill Lynch is arguably the most powerful White House chief of staff since the job was formally created, and certainly the most important presidential aide since Sherman Adams, Eisenhower's domineering assistant.

Mr Regan's influence has been highlighted by the President's illness. He was the man who decided whether the President was fit enough to reclaim his authority from Mr Bush after the operation.

He was present with Mrs Reagan when the doctors broke the news that the tumour was cancerous. He sees and speaks to Mr Reagan on the telephone several times a day - the only White House official to do so.

For the next two months, when the President's schedule will be reduced, Mr Regan will, as far as possible, take routine decisions on his own. He has already taken the lead in choosing a successor to Mr David Stockman, the Budget Director, who is leaving next month, and is expected to pick a man who will be subordinate to him.

Unlike his predecessor, Mr Regan does not have to share his power. He has no rivals for Mr Regan's ear. He has brought his own men into the White House, and will further consolidate his position in the coming reshuffle. "He sees the staff as his staff. He's the one the President relies on," a senior White House aide said.

There have been powerful chiefs of staff before: President Nixon relied on Mr Bob Haldeman, who was famous for building a "Berlin Wall" round the President before his nemesis.

General Alexander Haig, Mr Nixon's last chief of staff, fought with military dedication to the bitter end to keep Mr Nixon in office. Mr Hamilton Jordan had unparalleled access to President Carter.

But in former Administrations there have always been other powerful men, who mostly competed for influence and attention: Dr Henry Kissinger and Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski never allowed themselves to be subordinate to the chief of staff.

In the present administration, Mr Regan has no rivals, for other powerful figures such as Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and Mr Robert McFarlane, the National Security Adviser, eschew petty squabbles and rivalry in personal ambition. They see their job as members of a team, and are in no mood to challenge Mr Regan for influence.

But Mr Regan will probably never concentrate in his hands the power held by Sherman Adams.

For five years under Eisenhower, he virtually ran the Administration, dispensing jobs and advice, deciding what the ailing President read and whom he saw, ruthlessly fighting his political enemies. But the fall came in 1953, when he resigned in disgrace.

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Screening saved Reagan

By Our Medical Correspondent

If President Reagan survives and he has a 50 per cent chance of doing so - he will owe his life to the aggressive routine screening popular in the United States which detected the presence of the malignant tumour in his caecum.

This is one of the so-called silent areas of the body where cancer frequently only makes its presence known when the growth has reached such an advanced state that surgery is impossible and the condition can be suspected only after the patient's general deterioration.

The high incidence of cancer of the colon in the Western world, which kills 49,000 people annually in the United States, is blamed on a diet too rich in meat and fat and too low in fibre.

Last year routine endoscopy, inspection of the inside of the colon with an illuminant tube showed the presence of a benign pedunculated small polyp. This was snared and removed without opening the abdomen.

Although reports at the time suggested that a colonoscopy was used and a good view

obtained of the whole colon as far as the iliocecal junction, where the large and small intestines meet, the tumour, which must have already been present, was missed.

Once polyps, which remain benign for a long while, start to occur in the older person they are recurrent and regular checks are essential. The suggestion that Mr Reagan's gut look like those of a 40-year-old is greeted with scepticism by British surgeons and belied by the presence of a fresh polyp this year.

In 5 per cent of cases of cancer of the colon, two or more malignant growths are found at the same time. Most tumours benign or malignant, grow down the left colon, and endoscopy has been particularly successful in reducing the death rate from these more easily visualized sections of the large gut.

Cancer of the colon can spread by direct extension through the gut wall, but in the President's case the doctors know this has not happened. It can spread through the lymphatic drainage system, but it is reported that no lymph gland involvement has been found in those glands removed with a third of his large intestine.

At the time of surgery President Reagan's liver and other organs would have been examined for evidence of secondary spread, but this will detect only comparatively large tumours. The President will now need extensive and repeated screening with CAT scanners and ultra sound to see if more distant lymph glands are involved or if there are smaller tumours embedded in the liver tissue, the most common site for cancer of the colon to spread to. A CAT scan will detect secondaries eight millimetres in diameter.

The shock, both physical and mental to any man in his mid-seventies of a long operation and anaesthetic should not be underestimated. It is frequently noticed that geriatric patients age very rapidly after major surgery and thereafter show a loss of both intellectual grasp and flexibility.

Cereals key to EEC crop reform

From Our Own Correspondent Brussels

The European Commission means to force EEC farm ministers to agree radical reforms on cereal production this year. They will be asked to start negotiations in earnest from September.

The ministers were given a first look at various options the Commission considers susceptible to reform when they were yesterday given copies of the new Green Paper on the common agricultural policy at their meeting in Brussels.

Mr Frans Andriessen, the Agriculture Commissioner, emphasized the need for quick decisions, particularly in the cereal sector. His point was given added strength by the fact that ministers were still struggling to find any agreement on cereal prices for this year.

Negotiations were making no progress last night, with West Germany arguing that low-quality crops from countries like Britain were responsible for the cereal crisis.

With negotiations bogged down, the Commission did come forward with a big management concession to help West Germany, which has been alone so far in blocking a price agreement.

The concession means reducing by at least 30 days the delay between the time farmers send their wheat for sale and when they receive their cash. This is equivalent to a 1 per cent price rise.

The Commission is also offering to buy in up to 3 million tonnes of the very best wheat - a type grown particularly in West Germany - at 5 per cent above the guaranteed price at the end of the marketing year in May.

There was no discussion on the Green Paper, as all the ministers want time to read it and officials time to study it before embarking on reform. It is an extremely detailed paper, 100 pages long and including charts and tables.

Apart from cereals, the Commission is anxious for ministers to take early decisions on how to reduce the level of milk quotas available and how to deal with the beef mountain. These three areas represent the "hot and core" problems at the centre of all of the CAP's problems.

Milk agreement reprieves Britain's pinta

From Ian Murray, Brussels

After 15 years of sterile argument, the EEC has at last agreed harmonized, pasteurized standards for Community milk. But since they will not be fully introduced until 1994 at the earliest, Britain's doorstep pinta will not be threatened by cheaper imports from the Community for nearly a decade.

Community farm ministers meeting in Brussels yesterday eventually agreed on two-tier standards, which include scientific controls of the permitted levels of everything from water to bacteria in milk. All milk meeting these standards will be allowed to flow freely round the Common market.

But it will not be until 1989 that the first standard will be introduced and since this is below that currently required by Britain, imported milk will be allowed onto the British market only if it passed strict tests.

From 1994, however, the second tier of standards is to be introduced and this is compatible with those now enforced in Britain. Milk certified as meeting these requirements would have to be allowed in.

Mr Michael Jopling, the British Minister, said in Brussels yesterday that the deal had been reached after the closest consultation with the British industry. He was confident it would be able to compete with any EEC exporters and could win markets of its own in the Community.

Britain is currently being prosecuted by the European Commission for refusing to allow imports of fresh milk on the ground that it does not comply with British health standards. These standards have never been precisely codified by law and are now covered by the ones just agreed.

In Mr Jopling's view this should mean an end to the legal action against Britain. "Now we have achieved this, I would think it would make the court procedure unnecessary."

Together with the two other senior US delegates, Mr Kampelman is in Brussels today to brief the North Atlantic Council on what has happened during round two. They are due in Washington tomorrow for further consultations and to make their report to the President and to Mr Shultz.

In the closing phase of this latest round news came out of Washington to the effect that some Soviet negotiators in Geneva had told their American counterparts that Moscow would be prepared to conclude an agreement which would not preclude continued American research on their Star Wars strategic defence initiative (SDI) provided this was not carried through into development and testing.

The immediate Russian reaction did not come direct from Moscow but from the Soviet delegation here which said tersely but ambiguously that the Washington report "does not reflect the actual state of affairs in the negotiations". They were clearly annoyed at what they regarded as a breach of confidentiality.

Beirut quiet as gunmen stay away

Beirut (Reuters) - Muslim militiamen swapped battle fatigues for civilian clothes yesterday as Syrian military observers and Lebanese police patrolled west Beirut after weeks of militia anarchy.

Under orders from the Prime Minister, Mr Rashid Karami, to keep off the streets, the fighters stayed at home or left for areas not affected by the latest attempt, agreed in Damascus last week by Muslim leaders, to end the anarchy.

In an apparent response, Christian leaders in east Beirut said all Phalangist gunmen there and to the north were being united under the command of the Lebanese forces militia.

The green line dividing east and west Beirut remained tense. Lebanon's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Mr Zafar al-Hasan, was wounded in the hand by a sniper bullet while crossing to the east under police escort.

Police patrols set out after Mr Karami's 6 am deadline for Muslim militia to close all but their head offices. Five Syrian observers toured west Beirut to ensure that the first stage of the Syrian plan was enforced.



Police searching a car for weapons in west Beirut yesterday

Murdered boy's mother freed on bail

From Diana Geddes Paris

The Criminal Appeal Court in Nancy decided yesterday to release on bail Mme Christine Villenot, the mother of "Little Gregory", who was imprisoned 10 days ago after being charged with the murder of her child.

There were fears for the health of Mme Villenot who is six months pregnant with her second child and is suffering from severe circulatory problems. Mme Villenot herself had always sworn that, if she were

ever sent to prison for the murder of her son, she would come out "feet first".

In pursuit of that end, she began refusing all food and drink as soon as she went into prison on July 5. Three days later she was joined in her hunger strike by her husband, M Jean-Marie Villenot, who is also in prison, charged with the murder of his cousin, M Bernard Laroche, the original chief suspect in Little Gregory's murder.

Both abandoned their strike

last Wednesday, however, probably in anticipation of the Appeal Court's expected verdict.

Mme Villenot was originally imprisoned on the orders of M Jean-Michel Lambert, the examining magistrate in the case, against the advice of the Public Prosecutor's Office.

The boy, aged four, was found last October with his hands and feet tied, drowned in the Vologne River in the Vosges, near his parents' home.

US soldier hurt on 'spy' patrol in East Germany

From Frank Johnson Bonn

An American soldier was hurt at the weekend in another incident involving the allied military liaison mission patrols in East Germany authorized under the postwar agreements between the West and the Soviet Union.

A US Army spokesman in West Berlin yesterday said that the soldier had been in a Jeep chased by Russian troops. He declined to give further details.

It is the third similar incident this year to become known. On March 24 US Major Arthur Nicholson was shot dead by the Russians while on one of the patrols. The Russians claimed he was too close to a restricted military area.

Three British soldiers taking part in a patrol under the same agreements, had their vehicle rammed by a Russian lorry on June 4.

The patrols are a form of "licensed spying" originally intended to reassure each side about the other's troop movements.

The weekend incident will cause observers to assess whether it forms part of a pattern of new Soviet aggressiveness towards the patrols.

Dispute over embassy arrest Dutch threaten to recall their envoy in Pretoria

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

The Netherlands yesterday told South Africa it would recall its ambassador unless a Dutch citizen seized by the South African security police last week in disputed circumstances was released within 48 hours.

The ultimatum was delivered by the Dutch Ambassador, Mr Hugo Carsten, to the South African Director-General of Foreign Affairs, Mr Ray Kilen, in Pretoria. A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said: "We are in discussion regarding this matter" but refused further comment, claiming it would jeopardize the search for a solution.

The diplomatic wrangle started on July 9 when a Dutch citizen, Mr Kees de Jonge, escaped briefly from the custody of two security policemen to whom he was allegedly pointing out locations in Pretoria where he had committed offences.

According to the Dutch, Mr de Jonge managed to make his way to the embassy, on the first floor of a Pretoria building, had been sitting in the waiting room for at least a minute

"when a number of armed men entered the room and took him away".

The South Africans say that Mr de Jonge, handcuffed and restricted by leg irons, broke away for no more than a few seconds and had only "partially entered" the embassy when the policemen pulled him back.

According to the police, Mr de Jonge, who was arrested in June, is "the kingpin in a major investigation" into the smuggling of arms into South Africa for use by insurgents of the underground African National Congress (ANC).

A sociologist, Mr de Jonge is being held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act, which permits persons suspected of security offences to be held indefinitely for interrogation.

The US Ambassador here, Mr Herman Nickel, was recalled to Washington to show the South African government the country's displeasure after the ANC raid in mid-June on houses allegedly occupied by ANC activists in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana. It is not clear when, or even if, he will return.

Banzer claims Bolivia victory

La Paz (Reuters) - The former Bolivian military ruler, General Hugo Banzer, has claimed victory in last Sunday's election after 30 per cent of the vote was counted.

"We hope that this victory will be respected whatever the difference in the number of votes, because we were always prepared to recognize those who won the most votes," he said.

Unofficial results gave General Banzer's right-wing Nationalist Democratic Action party 39.1 per cent of the vote, 15 points ahead of the centrist Nationalist Revolutionary Movement.

General Banzer said that, if he became the next President, he was prepared to join the Cartagena group of Latin American debtors. But "we don't want to be involved with those who do not want to pay," he said.

Bolivia has a \$3.3 billion foreign debt, part of which has been paid for 16 months. He claimed his party's lead was very large.

Minister pays for court scene

Seoul (Reuters) - President Jun Doo Hwan abruptly replaced his Justice Minister after anti-government protests in court forced a delay in the trial of 20 students for occupying the US Information Service library.

Informed sources said the outgoing minister took responsibility for not preventing pandemonium when defendant shouted slogans against President Chun. The trial was adjourned until July 29.

Jail for bribes

Moscow (Reuters) - A Soviet regional railway chief, sentenced to nine years in a labour camp and confiscation of his private property for taking bribes, including a specially made guitar, Tass reported.

Mine kills four

Moscow (Reuters) - Three schoolboys and an elderly woman were killed by an undiscovered wartime mine which exploded in Riga, capital of Latvia, when the children picked it up.

Agca refusal

Rome (AP) - Mehmet Ali Agca, the state's star witness, again refused to attend the trial of seven men he was accused of plotting with him to kill the Pope. It was the fourth time he had exercised his right not to attend.

Death penalty

Istanbul (AP) - A martial law court in the eastern province of Elazir sentenced two convicted left-wing terrorists to death and two others to life imprisonment, the Turkish General Staff announced.

Soap opera off

Paris (Reuters) - The French soap opera "Chateauvallon", in collaboration with Italian, Swiss, Luxembourg and Welsh television, is being cancelled after its star Chantal Nobel, was seriously injured in a car crash.

Tax on thieves

Tel Aviv (Reuters) - A thief must pay tax even though he obtains his income illegally, a Tel Aviv court has ruled. It said that criminals should not have a double advantage over the law-abiding citizen by paying no taxes and engaging in illegal practices.

Banzer claims Bolivia victory

La Paz (Reuters) - The Bolivian military ruler, General Hugo Banzer, has claimed victory in last Sunday's election, after 30 per cent of the vote.

"We hope that this election will be respected wherever there is a difference of opinion," Banzer said. "We are prepared to recognize the results of the most honest election."

Unofficial results gave Banzer's party 30.1 per cent of the vote, 15 points ahead of the second place, the Nationalist Movement.

General Banzer said that he was prepared to accept the results of the election, but that he would not be involved in the process of the new government.

Bolivia has a 200,000 foreign debt, but Banzer has been unpaid for 18 months, he said.

Minister pays for court scene

Seoul (Reuters) - Prime Minister Do Hwang has paid for a court scene in a case involving a 20 student group, who had been protesting against the government.

Informal reports said that Do Hwang had paid for a court scene in a case involving a 20 student group, who had been protesting against the government.

Jail for bribes

Moscow (Reuters) - A regional court has sentenced a former Soviet official to jail for bribes.

Mine kills four

New York (Reuters) - A mine explosion in a Soviet mine has killed four people.

Agca refusal

Rome (Reuters) - Agca has refused to accept a deal offered by the Italian government.

Soap opera off

London (Reuters) - A soap opera has been cancelled by the BBC.

Tax on thieves

London (Reuters) - A tax on thieves has been introduced in the UK.

Embassy arrest

London (Reuters) - An embassy has been arrested in the UK.

Ten to recall in Pretoria

London (Reuters) - Ten people have been recalled in Pretoria.

Unesco congress joins Live Aid applause

Barcelona (Reuters) - The Unesco congress has joined the Live Aid applause.

Bank of Scotland Base Rate

Bank of Scotland announces that, with effect from 16th July, 1985 its Base Rate will be decreased from 12.50% per annum to 12.00% per annum.

Last-minute wage deal averts threat of Israeli general strike

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

Israel's two-week long economic cliffhanger ended early yesterday when government, industry and trade union leaders, after an all-night session in Tel Aviv, agreed on the main points of the Government's economic recovery programme, averting a general strike at the last moment.

Agreement rested on an accord between the Histadrut (General Federation of Labour) and private-sector employers which entailed a level of wage erosion acceptable to the Histadrut while remaining within the basic outline of the Government's economic plan.

It provides for a 14 per cent cost of living rise next month, 4 per cent less than wage earners would have received; a one-off payment of 12 per cent in September; and a further 11.5 per cent increase in three instalments (4 per cent in December, 4 per cent in January and the rest in February) to make up for wage erosion during the July-September stabilisation period.

Ethiopian Jews demand to return home

From Our Correspondent, Jerusalem

More than 600 recently arrived Ethiopian Jews yesterday began a protest march from the immigrant absorption centre in northern Israel to Ben Gurion airport near Tel Aviv, Israel radio reported.

"We want to go back to Ethiopia," one protester was quoted as saying. "There's the humiliation of hunger, but at least we were proud Jews."

The Ethiopian Jews, most of whom arrived in a dramatic airlift earlier this year, have grown increasingly distressed by a question-mark over their Jewishness raised by Israel's religious establishment, and specifically by the demand that they undergo ritual immersion.

The growing resentment of the Ethiopian Jews came to a head early this week in the form of hunger strikes in a number of absorption centres around the country.

Hundreds of men, women and children set out in searing heat on yesterday's 150-mile march. According to the radio, many children and old people soon succumbed and had to be carried or helped.

The Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, yesterday voiced his concern about the plight of the Ethiopian Jews, and said he would speak to the chief rabbis.

Sudan refugees moved in case of epidemic

From Paul Valley, El Geneina

Police have started to round up thousands of refugees living in the streets of Geneina in western Sudan as a precaution against cholera and typhoid epidemics which it is feared might break out in this overcrowded market town.

The refugees, mainly from across the border with Chad but many from abandoned villages in the immediate vicinity, are being taken to a spot on the town outskirts called Karantena where the local authorities are asking the United Nations High Commission for Refugees to set up a camp.

Aid workers here report an increasingly hostile attitude on the part of local Sudanese officials towards the refugees. At a meeting three days ago demands were raised that they should be taken by lorry to the border with Chad and dumped on the other side.

All around Geneina, which has now been cut off from the rest of Sudan for more than a week, council workers have been cutting down trees. The small fruit of the neem tree produced at this time of year have attracted swarms of flies which breed in them.

The army has been alerted to seal off any areas of the town should epidemics break out.

The West German Air Force has agreed to return to the EEC airlift so that Geneina should now receive two flights a day carrying a total 40 tons of grain, medicine and supplementary food. Even so, the area will be receiving less than a tenth of the food it needs.

Buoyant economy forces China to apply brake

Peking - (Reuters) - Chinese leaders, facing new difficulties created by the country's surging economy, have called for tighter party control and announced a shift in foreign investment priorities.

Mr Hu Qili, a senior member of the Central Committee secretary, said in a statement published by the China Daily that the economic reform programme would fail unless the party maintained a tight grip on change.

In a significant shift from policy announced just 15 months ago, a state councillor, Mr Gu Mu, was quoted by the official New China News Agency as saying foreign investment priorities would be altered.

Mr Gu said investment would be channelled into the four big coastal cities of Shanghai, Canton, Dalian and Tianjin. Less emphasis would be placed on development of 10 other coastal cities opened to outside investment in April last year.

use to implement the programme, and instead to enter into negotiations with the Histadrut on an agreement for the public sector.

The government position is that the 1 per cent target must be achieved through a combination of wage cuts and lay-offs. The Histadrut has been exploring ways of achieving it as far as possible through pay cuts, keeping dismissals to a minimum.

All sides expressed themselves satisfied with the breakthrough. The Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, said an important victory had been achieved in the fight against inflation. "We have a few tough months ahead of us, but these are months that should see a turnaround in the economy."

The Finance Minister, Mr Yizhak Mordechai, was satisfied that the agreement entailed no deviation from the basic aims of the economic plan, an assessment shared by the president of the Israeli manufacturers' association, Mr Eli Hurvitz, who negotiated the accord with the Histadrut on behalf of the private-sector employers.

The secretary-general of the Histadrut, Mr Israel Kessar, was content that the unions had stood firm on the principle that the Government could not unilaterally abrogate wage agreements, which could be changed only through negotiation with the organization.

Despite the Government's protestations that the agreement does not deviate from the economic plan, some economists, among them Professor Assaf Razin of Tel Aviv University, voiced concern that because of its concession to the Histadrut on wages, the Government will have no choice but to adjust other elements of the plan in the coming months, which could involve another devaluation of the shekel.

Three killed in holiday island fire

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Three young Greeks died on the holiday island of Hydra after being trapped in a forest fire. The fire was one of several that have been raging throughout Greece for four days, destroying houses and trees, and threatening military installations south of Athens.

Mr Theophilus Saitis, the Mayor of Hydra, said the three young men, a restaurant owner and two waiters, died trying to rescue some of the 18th century Church of St John which was burning during a forest fire on the southern part of the island. Four other people were missing.

The Mayor said hundreds of foreign tourists in Hydra had joined the local inhabitants in fighting the fire. Strong winds prevented fire-fighting aircraft from making sorties, while the absence of fire engines and roads in the island created a desperate situation.

The main forest fires were raging over a wide area in the southern part of Attica and the blaze reached Cape Sounion. Several tourist hotels and camping sites were evacuated as the fire edged towards the coast, which is dotted with holiday villas and luxury hotels.

Troops were called out when the blaze threatened a munitions factory in Lavrio and an Air Force base at Plaka which stores Nike anti-aircraft missiles. These were hastily moved to avert a disaster.

Mr Antonis Drosos, Minister of State for Defence, and the Greek Chief of Staff, were supervising the operations.

Gale force winds which have devastated sea and air communications in the Aegean as well as high temperatures have encouraged the spread of the fires which are devastating the few forests that survive in Greece.

About 30 forest fires were reported within the last week.

Mr Agamemnon Koutsogiorgas, the Interior Minister, said he had no evidence that the latest forest fires in Attica had political motives.

"We are investigating all possibilities," he said.

The opposition leader, Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, said the latest spate of fires had taken on the dimensions of a "national tragedy".

All Blacks gather to hear alternative tour plans

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington

There was expectation in the All Black rugby camp last night that the ruling council of the New Zealand Rugby Football Union will announce today an alternative tour to replace the aborted visit to South Africa.

The 30 All Blacks selected for the South African tour, whose travel plans to leave this week were upset by a High Court injunction last Saturday, will assemble in Wellington this morning. It is expected they will be told by their union of plans for a new tour.

The union's 18 national councillors were still meeting late last night, studying the implications of the injunction and assessing tour opportunities available.

The options appear to be to arrange alternative visits to Ireland and Argentina, have been mentioned - or a shortened visit to South Africa if the union can persuade the court to proceedings to be resumed today, not to extend its temporary travel prohibition. An official indicated that the council was not expected to reveal its intentions immediately.

The Opposition attempted to force a snap debate in Parlia-

First steps to a high-tech future Ministers meet to define Eureka

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Foreign and research ministers of 17 European countries met in Paris today to give some definition to the vague, but remarkable successful, French Eureka initiative for co-ordinating advanced technological research and development in Europe.

Launched three months ago by France as the European answer to the American Star Wars project, the Eureka initiative has evolved into something much broader and more oriented to the commercial exploitation of civil research, attracting interest and support from governments and individual firms.

A number of companies are planning co-operative projects under the Eureka umbrella. But as yet that cannot mean very much, as no one knows what will constitute Eureka, how it will be funded, or what form participation will take.

It is to those questions that today's conference will address itself.

The French have proposed five main areas, covering computers and artificial intelligence, robotics, telecommunications, biotechnology and new materials. But other countries, Britain included, have their own ideas which will be put forward at the meeting.

Once the programme's broad outlines have been settled, ministers must decide what criteria should be applied to individual projects to qualify them as official "Eureka projects".

Such complex questions cannot be settled in one day. But whatever the outcome of this first inter-governmental Eureka meeting, it is certain to give new political momentum to an initiative which was greeted at first with considerable scepticism by France's partners and is now expected to receive the official backing of all 12 EEC member states, plus Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland and Austria.

Bank of Scotland Base Rate

Bank of Scotland announces that, with effect from 16th July, 1985 its Base Rate will be decreased from 12.50% per annum to 12.00% per annum.

BANK OF SCOTLAND
A FRIEND FOR LIFE

Meeting the people

Gandhi outflanks the windowdressers

From Richard Ford, Delhi

The Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has, once again demonstrated his unpopularity at the window dressing that takes place even in the remotest areas of the country, before his official visits.

His unconventional approach on such trips is to take state officials by surprise and leave them floundering with lame excuses as he asks pertinent and at times embarrassing questions.

Mr Gandhi has an acute eye for the recently completed building, the fresh paintwork and the new furniture aimed at impressing the prime ministerial party. And clearly he does not like it.

Neither is he prepared to take the word of local dignitaries alone and he often prefers to question the people themselves. When the answers prove less than flattering to local officials, he wastes no time in telling them so.

During a visit to tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh, a forest ranger was suspended on the prime minister's orders after Mr Gandhi had heard complaints from tribal villagers about the amount they were being paid for bamboo seeds.

When officials suggested that people living in the forest interior be brought to him as the villages were inaccessible, Mr Gandhi was insistent: he would go by jeep and, if necessary, elephant.

Eventually the officials relented but at another village, Kuldahat, they were in for more shocks. Mr Gandhi closely questioned students at a

residential school to discover that 20 cots had been provided for them only a day earlier and saplings planted just hours before his arrival.

In a shop he was overheard saying to the Chief Minister: "I know the shop was put up only two days ago", while outside he quickly spotted that every house in the village, population 170, had been recently whitewashed.

As he left Mr Gandhi expressed unhappiness at such window dressing and sharply told Mr Ranvir Singh Shastri, the state's Minister of State for Tribal Welfare: "Don't whitewash things. Do some work."

His attempts to end the traditional attitudes of local officials and his unconventional manner are clearly having an effect on the hazy politics of India. The youthful Prime Minister first indicated his dislike for some of the traditional trappings surrounding his office only hours after being sworn in. As the chief minister of the states gathered to pay obeisance to the new leader, he told them to get back to their home states to contain the anti-Sikh riots that had erupted.

And political gossip in Delhi has it that President Zail Singh is unhappy because he believes the prime minister is not consulting him about affairs of state. It was widely noted that Mr Gandhi had not paid the usual courtesy visit to the President before leaving on his recent five-nation tour. When questioned, Mr Gandhi disarmingly replied that he had broken many conventions.

Indian Army withdraws from Ahmedabad

From Richard Ford, Delhi

The Indian Army yesterday withdrew from the troubled city of Ahmedabad after a growing improvement in law and order after almost five months of communal strife.

Two thousand troops had been sent to the walled city in two phases as the crisis in Gujarat turned into violent clashes between Hindus and Muslims which resulted in more than 200 deaths. The first troops arrived in the city in the middle of March and more were requested by the embattled state government in April.

They took over total control of law and order in the city and three suburbs as disturbances increased and a curfew was imposed on parts of the city. The strife in the state led to the resignation of the former Chief Minister 10 days ago and his replacement by the former Home and Education Minister, Mr Amar Singh Chaudhary.

Within days of taking office the new Chief Minister transferred leading figures in the state's largely discredited police force and replaced them with

Mr Julio Ribeiro, who became Director-General of Police. He had built himself a reputation as a tough and skilful policeman when in Bombay and was sent to Gujarat to "infuse a sense of moral in the police force, generate confidence among the people and restore peace and normality in the state".

During a tour of the city on Monday Mr Ribeiro heralded the Army's departure, saying it would not be exposed to long periods of running civilian law and order. Announcing the decision to withdraw the Army, a government spokesman said it was standing by outside the city and would come back "within minutes" if it was needed.

Tension within the state has eased during recent days though the police still regularly confront mobs throwing stones and dispersing them by firing tear-gas shells. Meanwhile, thousands of government employees remain on strike as part of protests against plans to reserve places in higher education and government administration for people from so-called backward castes.

Policeman who planted bomb pleads guilty

Los Angeles - A policeman hailed as a hero for defusing a bomb found on a bus carrying the luggage of the Turkish Olympic team has pleaded guilty to possession of an explosive in the superior court here. (Our Correspondent writes.)

Jimmy Wade Pearson was acclaimed for his swift action in removing the bomb from the bus at Los Angeles airport. But 24 hours later he was arrested and charged with planting the device.

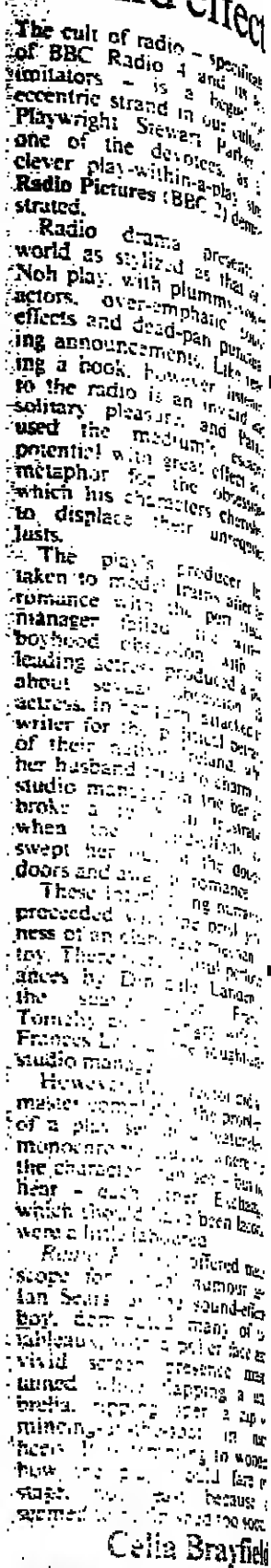
Pearson, aged 41, faces up to three years in prison. After his arrest, he admitted staging the hoax last August in the hope that it would lead to his transfer from one department to another.



The area of southern Greece affected by forest fires

... ..

Television
Sound effect
The cult of radio



'THE MUSIC IS TERRIFIC'



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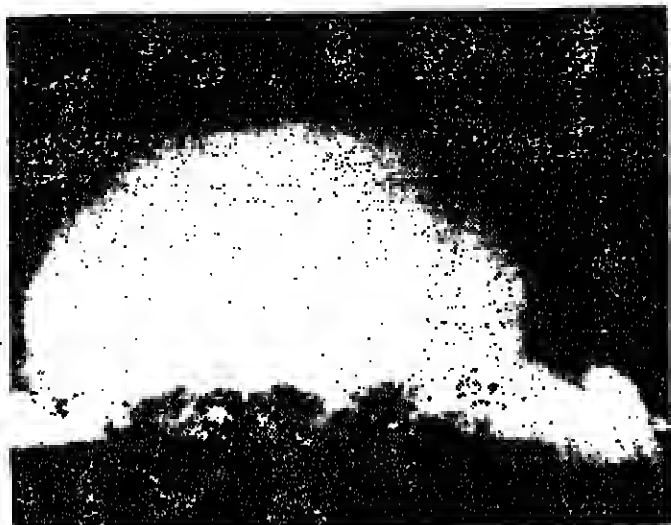
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The finance offers above are subject to credit approval and apply to Sierra vehicles registered between July 1st and August 31st in England, Scotland and Wales and which are subject to Conditional Sale Agreements or Red Carpet Plan Hire Purchase Agreements underwritten by Ford Motor Credit Company Limited, Regent House, 1 Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4QL. Applicants must be over 18 years of age and, in the case of Red Carpet Plan, must operate a current bank account from which payments will be made by direct debit. Written credit details may be obtained from any participating Ford dealer or by writing to Ford Motor Credit Company Limited, Regent House, 1 Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4QL. Please note: various factory fitted options are available for eligible vehicles at an extra cost. Figures and APR correct at time of going to press.

Why I stopped work on the bomb

Forty years ago yesterday, the world was changed. Just before dawn in the New Mexico desert, the first atom bomb was detonated. Joseph Rotblat, one of the scientists involved, withdrew from the Manhattan project when he questioned the morality behind the bomb. Here he describes his initial reservations about the project, and his subsequent resignation



The first atomic bomb test (top) at Alamogordo, New Mexico, and (above) Los Alamos laboratory, nearby, where the weapon was invented in 1945

Working on the Manhattan project was a traumatic experience: it is not often given to one to participate in the birth of an era. For some the effect has endured throughout their lives; it has for me.

At the beginning of 1939 I was working in the Radiological Laboratory in Warsaw when I heard of the fission of uranium. Because of the work I had been doing it did not take me long after a simple experiment to conclude that a divergent chain reaction with a vast release of energy was possible. The logical sequel was that if this energy were released in a very short time it would result in an explosion of unprecedented power.

My first reflex was to put the whole thing out of my mind, like a person trying to ignore the first symptoms of a fatal disease. But the fear gnaws away at the same.

My fear was that someone would put the idea into practice; the thought that I would do it did not occur.

Having no doubt, however, that the Nazis would use any device, however inhumane, to achieve success, I wondered if one should try to find out whether the fear had a realistic basis. A move to Liverpool in April 1939 for a year's research work with Professor Chadwick gave me an excuse to push this question aside, but throughout the spring and summer the gnawing went on. It intensified with the increasing signs of German preparation for war.

Gradually I worked out a

rational for work on the bomb. I convinced myself that the only way to stop the Germans from using it against us would be if we too had the bomb and threatened to retaliate. My scenario never envisaged that we should use it, not even against the Germans; we needed the bomb for the sole purpose that it should not be used by them. The same argument is still used by the proponents of the deterrence doctrine.

'The invasion of Poland ended all my scruples'

With hindsight I can see the folly of the deterrence thesis. For one thing it would not have worked with a psychopath like Hitler. If he had had the bomb it is very likely that his last order from the bunker in Berlin would have been to destroy London, even if that were to bring terrible retribution on Germany. Indeed, he would have seen this as an heroic way of going down.

My thinking at the time required that the feasibility of the atom bomb be established with the utmost urgency, yet I could not overcome my scruples. I felt the need to talk it over with someone, but my English was too halting to discuss such a sensitive issue with my colleagues in Liverpool.

In August 1939 I had to go to Poland; war broke out two days after I returned to Liverpool. Within a few weeks Poland was overrun and the might of Germany stood revealed. Our civilization was in mortal peril. My scruples were finally overcome. In November 1939 I went to Chadwick with an outline of my plan for research on the feasibility of the atom bomb, which he accepted; later I learnt that other scientists in Britain had had the same idea, some with similar motivation.

As a result of investigations in Liverpool and elsewhere, we were able to establish that an atom bomb was possible, but it was clear that a vast technological effort was needed, far exceeding the manpower and industrial potential of wartime Britain. A top level decision was taken to collaborate with the Americans, and so I found myself eventually in Los Alamos.

In March 1944 I experienced a disagreeable shock. In a casual conversation General Leslie Groves, the head of the Manhattan project, said: "You realize of course that the real purpose of making the bomb is to subdue our chief enemy, the Russians." Until then I had thought that our work was to prevent a Nazi victory. Now I was told that the weapon we were preparing was really against Russia.

My concern gained substance from conversations with Niels Bohr which made me think about the social and political



implications of nuclear energy and the consequences of a future nuclear arms race between East and West.

When it became evident, towards the end of 1944, that the Germans had abandoned the bomb project, my work ceased to have purpose and I asked for permission to return to Britain. Why did other scientists not make the same

decision? Obviously, one would not expect General Groves to wind up the project as soon as Germany was defeated, but there were many scientists for whom the German factor was the main motivation; why did they not quit when this factor ceased to be?

I was not allowed to discuss this issue with anybody after I declared my intention to leave

Los Alamos, but earlier conversations, as well as much later ones, elicited several reasons for the continuation of the project. The most frequent reason given was scientific curiosity, the urge to find out whether the theoretical calculations were true. These scientists felt that only after a test explosion should they enter into the debate about the use of the bomb.

Others were prepared to put the matter off even longer. They were persuaded by the argument that many American lives would be saved if the bomb brought a rapid end to the war with Japan.

Other scientists, while agreeing that the project should be stopped after the German defeat, were not willing to take an individual stand because they feared it would adversely affect their careers. The majority were not bothered by moral scruples.

After I had told Chadwick that I wished to leave the project, I was accused by the intelligence chief at Los Alamos of being a spy. Fortunately, in their zeal the agents put in their reports details of conversations with dates which were quite easy to refute and the dossier on me was withdrawn, but I had to agree not to talk to anybody about the reason for my leaving.

The ostensible reason would be a personal one: I was worried about my wife whom I had left in Poland, and so, on Christmas Eve, 1944, I took a boat for Britain.

The work on the Manhattan project changed radically my scientific career and attitude to my social obligations. It convinced me that even pure research soon finds applications and I wanted to decide for myself how my work would be used. I thereafter chose to work on an aspect of nuclear physics that would definitely be beneficial to medicine.

After 40 years one question still keeps nagging me: have we learnt enough not to repeat the mistakes we then made? I am not sure even about myself.

Not being an absolute pacifist, I cannot guarantee that I would not behave in the same way, should a similar situation arise.

The father and daughter who dare to be different

Few people seem to have much time for Harry Lawrence, the former computer consultant who gave up his job to guide and tutor his brilliant daughter.

Mr Lawrence felt his methods were justified when 13-year-old Ruth gained a starred first at Oxford and put the other students in shame, but he is not winning many converts. Everybody seems intent on looking at the negative side of what he has done. He keeps being accused of forcing his young daughter into an unnatural, unbalanced lifestyle, and preventing her from growing up as a "normal" teenager.

The sheer amount of adverse criticism he has received is an indication of what happens in our society when anybody dares to step outside the orthodox system. My own view is that Ruth and her father deserve great praise and admiration for daring to be different, and showing the world that a 13-year-old is capable of gaining a university degree.

The Lawrences' single-minded determination has meant that, unlike a "normal" teenager who wastes her time mooning over boyfriends, dying her hair purple and polluting her brain with pop songs, Ruth now has solid achievement behind her, and an exciting career ahead.

Unlike most teenagers Ruth has been allowed to realize her full academic potential. Her critics have argued that life cannot be much fun for her, not is it so much great fun for other girls of her age? I don't get the impression that every 13-year-old apart from Ruth Lawrence is deliriously happy and having a wonderful time. Quite the reverse in fact.

For most teenagers, particularly girls, being "normal" and "having fun" leads precisely nowhere. Girls who do not see the point of study, but instead go on to discuss and haot about boys, tend to end up at the age of 20 in a council flat with two toddlers, seeing only a life of dreariness ahead.



Brilliant: Ruth Lawrence

By contrast, Ruth Lawrence has set her sights on becoming a professor of mathematics. She is aiming at the highest rather than the lowest standards. In great part, this must be thanks to her father.

In photographs, Ruth does not look particularly unhappy or deprived. Indeed, she appears calm and self-assured, with a level of confidence most girls

her age would envy. We have been told that her father has manufactured her and turned her into an automaton, with no views of her own, but what 13-year-old does have valid, original views on life? I've yet to meet one.

In our present society, Ruth's achievement is so unusual that it has merited huge media coverage, but I suspect there could be many more such "geniuses" if other children were given Ruth's opportunities.

Child psychiatrists have estimated that most children achieve at best perhaps 10 per cent of their potential. Frank Sherwood, director of the National Association for Gifted Children, estimates that around two in every 100 children could be considered gifted.

When must children these days watch up in seven hours of unsupervised television daily, what can you expect? Any potential talent quickly withers and dies when all children are expected to be exactly like each

other, and all forms of individuality are frowned on.

British psychiatrist Jean Coleman has recently been researching into what makes winners in life. She has concluded that a happy and stable childhood, coupled with close encouragement from parents, is the formula for high achievement.

In the sporting world we can think of Boris Becker, the 17-year-old winner of Wimbledon. In music, Mozart's father is an obvious example. The Brookes, John Stuart Mill, Bertrand Russell, Krishnamurti - and Ruth Lawrence - all led isolated childhoods, where their academic excellence was brought out.

Instead of carping and finding fault, we should be saluting Ruth Lawrence and her father, and asking what we can do to ensure that more children are given the opportunity to be as brilliant.

Liz Hodgkinson

COMMENT

Labour's rock and poll song to youth



Pulling power: clockwise from top left: Mayall, Yip, Twinshead and Robinson

tenance award" for anyone staying at school after 16. In effect, this would be the first time schoolchildren have been paid a wage.

As part of Labour's "Jobs and Industry Campaign" launched in April, this charter is one of a series to be created before party conference at the end of September. They include those for the environment, "women at work", co-operatives and local initiatives for finding of industry and job-creating projects.

If the cynical see Labour's current use of youth's heroes as an attempt to win back some of the left's old glamour, it would be a mistake to underestimate the power of pop.

The forces of rock are being marshalled to support almost every cause. Since Bob Geldof made the Band Aid Christmas

record for the Ethiopian famine appeal, and then organized its sequel, Live Aid, pop has supported causes from CND to the Bradford fire disaster, from the Anti-Heroin Campaign to Greenpeace, and 1985 must be remembered as the year pop suffered pangs of conscience.

In March, Billy Bragg teamed up with Labour for a series of concerts under the banner "Jobs for Youth". Bragg's introduction to political songs began with benefits for the GLC and the miners. "For a lot of us who are genuinely concerned with writing about social things, the miners' strike put us into context," he said.

Labour are also negotiating to get their message on youth's back. Inspired by the success last year of designer Katharine Hammett's series of T-shirts, their most publicized moment came when invited to a Downing Street cocktail party to celebrate British Fashion Week. Hammett sported the slogan "58% Don't Want Pershing".

Labour have commissioned a series of their own. Hammett worked her familiar graphics into "Labour For Jobs", and other ideas have come from Bodmap.

In response to the Conservatives' exhortation to youth to set out on bicycles and hunt for jobs, Labour have organized "On yer Bike" - a relay ride for jobs. Cyclists from four directions will converge on London on July 23 to focus attention on the Campaign for Jobs and Industry. MPs will be joining legs of the relay - Denis Healey, for example, taking to two wheels in Leeds. Among the hard core who will tackle the whole route from Carlisle to London are three young unemployed men from Sheffield riding a "triplet". Their arrival in London should provoke new questions about job sharing to reduce unemployment.

Jane Withers

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 698)

ACROSS	1. Unique thing (3,3)	13. Lamb fur (9)	20. Stanza (5)
2. Man (6)	14. Abound (4)	21. Ignited again (5)	
3. Breach (4)	15. Move in water (4)	22. 2nd Greek letter (4)	
4. Raised (8)	16. Queen's Berkshire residence (7,6)	23. House (4)	
5. Social insect (3)	17. Low (3)		
6. Queen's Berkshire residence (7,6)	18. Become too hot (3)		
7. Low (3)	19. Of Jean (6)		
8. Become too hot (3)	20. Drive away (4)		
9. Of Jean (6)	21. Bombard (6)		
10. Drive away (4)	22. Dared state (6)		
11. Bombard (6)			
12. Dared state (6)			
DOWN	1. Promiscuous party (4)		
2. Artificial language (9)			
3. Newly made (5)			
4. To what place? (5)			
5. Persuade (4)			
6. Gather carefully (5)			
7. Zest (5)			
8. Cur (5)			
9. Under (5)			
10. Observable (5)			

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

**As the World Congress
on Mental Health in
Brighton this week
focuses on the
emotional and mental
problems of women,
Suzanne Greaves looks
at mid-life anguish**



The well-meaning husband may put his wife's unexplained moodiness down to the "empty nest syndrome." The doctor may suggest that her ailments are only to be expected in mid-life. But for the woman who has spent 20 years bringing up her family and now experiences depression, such labelling may send her further into a personal world of blackness and despair.

Ahead are seemingly empty years, devoid of school runs, parent-teacher meetings, holidays at the seaside. The menopause may be a welcome end to child bearing, but it is also a time to reflect upon unrepeatable years of indispensability. The strain on a partnership once the children reach independence can reach breaking point. "Couples have to be honest with each other at this age, perhaps renegotiate their marriage," says Zella West-Meads of the Marriage Guidance Council. "The husband by this stage may be absorbed in his career and have developed his own leisure pursuits. Within the seemingly content marriage can dwell great loneliness."

If a woman has devoted herself to home and children, then as the youngsters grow up she feels faced with emptiness. The couple talk but don't really communicate their needs and feelings, so the sexual partnership can peter out too with subsequent strains.

"But the middle years can be good ones too. It's a time when women are free to develop their own interests, possibly start a job. Yes a minority of long marriage couples find this stage, couples deciding it is in their mutual interest to split up. But if the problems are aired and helped the years ahead can be fulfilling and wonderful."

Dr Jack Dominian, a consultant psychiatrist, would agree, warning that 29 per cent of separated and divorced men and women in Britain suffer minor psychiatric illness, depression and breakdown.

Just a look at some of the mental health statistics indicates how vulnerable women are. In 1982, for instance, 28,507 women aged 16-64 were admitted to hospital for the first time for mental health care. A worrying number of 80,005 women were readmitted, compared with 53,396 men, and this, says Chris Shaw, spokesman for the National Association for Mental Health (NAMH), is often because of lack of community services and proper support once the patient returns home to an unchanged environment.

Coming to terms with the natural breaking up of the family is easier if you already have interests outside the home. "If you can let the youngsters go and if you can turn this new freedom into your special time then life can be rich," says Jane Coleridge, social worker and assistant director for mental health development with the Richmond Fellowship.

"I hear women say 'my child needs me' when in fact she is the one who really needs the child and is scared of facing up to her own new life. As parents you are suddenly looking in a new direction. As a couple you wonder what on earth there is to talk about now the children have gone. Men go through their own crisis too, worrying about job security, unrealized career advancement and their fears will spill onto the one they love, namely their wife."

If you are feeling confused and in despair, then seek good counselling help, advises Jane Coleridge. With expert help from perhaps the Marriage Guidance Council, the seemingly blank years can be ones of personal fulfilment. Taking up a new challenge at this time can also dispel loneliness and eventual depression.

Hard-pressed GPs unable to change a woman's living conditions, work wor-



Conquering middle age: new careers for antiques dealer Bryden Noble (left), hotel owner Barbara Ball (top) and writer Elizabeth Adler

Women: facing the crisis years

ries or marriage partner, may prescribe tranquillizers as a way out of her despair. Forty million prescriptions for tranquillizers are written each year with twice as many women as men taking their daily fix at a cost to the health service of around £30 million.

"The family doctor is often the first person people turn to when they're having difficulties," says MIND's Chris Shaw but warns that loneliness, an empty marriage or the demands of elderly parents cannot be solved by taking pills. Exercise, yoga and relaxation classes are better solutions.

Visiting the doctor may help the woman who is coping with her jangled hormones, in greater distress. Medical textbooks state that the menopause happens at 48, a neat statistic and one that categorizes this stage of life as a purely physical event. Women who have actually experienced it will tell you that the phrase "change of life" more satisfactorily sums up the tumultuous mental changes they faced.

They point out that the end of the child bearing years does not happen as dramatically as the onset of a girl's adolescence. You can develop premenopausal symptoms at 39 which may continue for another 10 years - not necessarily debilitating ones. Unless your doctor is sympathetic and interested in the concerns of his middle-aged women patients and understands there is more to it than the textbooks indicate, you may be urged to have a hysterectomy, prescribed hormone treatment or tranquillizers.

Felicity Graham, aged 49, was told by her 35-year-old male GP: "It's your age. You must expect to put up with this sort of thing."

Happily Felicity had already enrolled for a weekend workshop on the menopause, run by Jayne Nelson of the Polytechnic of Central London. In the company of others she explored the myths that surround the subject, discovered her feelings of fearfulness and inadequacy were not unusual and came away with greater understanding of how her body and mood changes were related. Within her group women aged between 30 to 55 swapped telephone numbers knowing that mutual support was at the end of the line.

Irene Starr, a speaker at the World Congress who works for Islington social services department, formed a menopause support group after discovering older women were being fobbed off by

doctors at a time when they needed proper help. "It's your age and you've just got to live with it," was a common answer. During 10 sessions the women met to hear specialist speakers, to share their own experiences and to receive practical information in the physiology and psychology of menopause.

There are around 70 similar groups around the country including Well Woman clinics. But if your health visitor does not know of such a group then you could try setting one up on your own.

General advice with emotionally related problems is available from MIND who run a woman-only group in London. Here women on tranquillizers, coping with aging parents or fearing a breakdown, meet under the eyes of specialists accustomed to working with people in crisis.

While support groups are the answer to voicing questions and fears, so returning to work or study can be another way of removing those feelings of emptiness. The Industrial Society run specialist "second chance" courses for older women. Joanna Foster, head of the society's Pepperell Unit, says: "It's common to find that older women believe they can offer no useful skills and at the same time experiencing enormous inner turmoil because no longer is their role of mother so neatly defined."

There comes a time when this mother has to say this is my time, my chance to develop other interests, perhaps a job. We show women that they have developed family managerial skills; it just needs help in putting across these skills to an employer."

Other women have already grasped the second chance opportunity. Margaret Evans, 51, decided that after years of coping with two children and a full-time job, this new freedom from domesticity opened the opportunity to return to study. She went to evening classes to gain an essential A-level and is now studying at college for her English degree.

The feminist movement has done much to pioneer issues such as abortion, paternity leave and child care facilities. But they are essentially issues of concern to younger women and perhaps it is only when such women reach middle years too that more pressure will be put upon the medical profession to become better informed and more understanding.

CASE HISTORIES

Barbara Ball

Barbara Ball, 54, walks into the lounge of Calcut Manor country house hotel, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, and with professional ease greets the guests enjoying a pre-dinner drink. She does it with the air of someone who has run a hotel all her life, but just a year ago she and her husband lived a comfortably suburban life in Suckleyham, Wiltshire.

For years she had run her husband Brian to the station to catch the 7.55 am for London and collected him again in the evening. For 11 years she was free to do exactly as she wished. As a former national president of the Ladies Circle, Barbara was used to meeting people, was absorbed in local community affairs but had not contemplated a new career.

Suddenly all that changed when her husband who held a post in catering management voiced his dream of owning his own hotel.

The Balls found Calcut, then a farm house, no a social visit to Gloucestershire. They sold their home and sank every penny into the new business.

"The hardest part is realising I am not free to meet a friend for lunch if someone rings up on the day," says Barbara. "I can't just go off and do my own thing without letting someone in the hotel down. I'm glad we changed our life before we got too old to do so."

Elizabeth Adler

Elizabeth Adler, 46, has just seen her first romantic novel to print and is currently working on its sequel. How she came to write the book and how she got it printed sounds like a fairy story come true.

"My daughter Anabelle was away at school and I decided it was time to embark on a new career. For three years I began writing in an exercise book at 6.30 each morning before progressing to a typewriter. Each night my husband John had to read through my self-imposed discipline of ten finished pages, before he was allowed to go to bed."

Elizabeth's first book *Private Desires* in Brazil and France, at the turn of the century, decided if the book was ever to be published she needed a good literary agent. Ed Victor agreed to read it. His agency sent the book to publishers Hodder and Stoughton and acceptance was immediate. *Private Desires* is now circulating in other languages, there is talk of a television adaptation and Elizabeth was asked to write a sequel.

"I'm so glad to have the books to immerse myself in. At my age you can run into all sorts of problems, but I feel I am coming into my own."

Housework in her Oxfordshire home is brushed aside as the demands of her new aid, a word processor, takes over. Early morning finds Elizabeth with a cat on her knee, a cup of tea on her desk, as she edits the previous day's pages.

Bryden Noble

Bryden Noble 46, packs left-over stock from her Barnsey market stall into a car and drives off to Huddersfield where she and her partner Hazel Beaumont opened their first antiques shop six months ago.

Called Heritage, it occupies a small unit in a refurbished shopping arcade and specializes in small pieces of furniture, linen, lace and pretty knick-knacks. It's rented too, which means capital can be invested in stock.

"It all began some years ago when I helped a friend out with her market stall of old books," explains Bryden. "I enjoyed it so much that I shared a stall there and sold old linens. Opening our own shop was a natural progression. Our children are older and all my family is only home on occasional weekends, so I do have more time."

Married for 24 years to a television producer, Bryden is mother to Andrew, 22, and Nick, 20, and is currently more concerned with a forthcoming litter of Labrador puppies than problems involved in growing older.

"I don't have time to worry about what happens to me when the boys leave home because happily I am much too busy," she says. "But I can't say I look forward to the time when they have gone to homes of their own. My friends fall into two categories: those who work full-time and those who don't work at all. I would hate to be on the coffee-morning round."

Goodbye to Bond and bangles

**In her final report
on the trends in
international style,
Isabelle Anscombe
looks at the
changing signs
of the times**

Finding that the world's Press tends to focus on interlarded arguments and controversial decisions, the United Nations had to discover a way to communicate a positive image of its aims, programmes and achievements. The burden fell on the UN Postal Administration, set up in 1951, which issues six sets of stamps annually, each with a theme publicising the work of the UN.

The stamp designs are chosen from an open, international competition, with the proviso that no nation or continent may be favoured neither wheat nor rice may be featured singly, no specific insect, bird, animal or fish, or colour or sex of human being, may be depicted. The symbols have to be universally intelligible (for example, does water mean flood or drought?) yet the Postal Administration says the most common complaint about the stamps is that they are too symbolic.

'Coca-Cola's success is patriotic'

So the universally understood is not internationally admired. The symbol probably perceived to be the most international is the Coca-Cola sign, made up of the original 19th-century script with the "dynamic curve" added in the 1960s, the time of the company's greatest international expansion. Coca-Cola themselves say it is "a sign of refreshment around the world" and that, in 1969, the "Apollo astronauts returning from their moonlight were greeted by a Times Square sign flashing 'Welcome Back to Earth, Home of Coca-Cola'."

Coca-Cola's success stems from the patriotic - and commercially astute - aim of maintaining the morale of American GIs abroad during and after the Second World War. But not everyone in the world will imagine the taste of Mom's apple pie when they see the sign.

The cult objects now most sought after in Moscow are ball-point and felt-tip pens and pocket calculators. A tribal chief in Papua New Guinea sports a green Pentel pen through his nose. Both the young blood in Red Square and the older one in the New Guinea Highlands would see to want the pen for the same reason. It's a prestigious symbol associated with a foreign power with which they have little contact. Yet pious Westerners would celebrate the former as a stifled cry for freedom from communist rule and condemn the latter as the infiltration of "cruminy" Western culture into dignified local customs.

Some island peoples have a rather passive attitude to their own economies because of the existence of cargo cults, a belief that their ancestors will come in aeroplanes and landing craft bringing valuable foreign

imports. But the tribal chief in Papua New Guinea is probably no less naive in his reaction to commercial insignia than the artist Andy Warhol was when he immortalized the Campbell's soup tin. Both are attempting to come to terms with an invasion of 20th-century goods.

People derive their aspirations from the media that surrounds them, so that global communications have led to objects from other cultures having all the attractions of a kind of stay-at-home tourism.

To an American - and to most Europeans sensitized to American attitudes - a McDonald's hamburger restaurant is not the smartest place in town. Yet in the Ginza in downtown Tokyo, such a place is packed with young poseurs anxious to be seen against such a startlingly un-Japanese background.

The Ford Sierra sells well in America, but as an imported European car which deliberately carries the name "Mercury" rather than Ford so that it seems to possess the mystique of being a European product. Apart from certain legal requirements, the Mercury badge is the only design difference between the car sold in America and that sold here. So a product can be enhanced, glamorized, by acting directly on the consumer's perception of it.

And the glamour of an international style is entirely relative: it's not that a product is sold internationally that makes it smart, but that it doesn't belong here, it's not local.

'Borders are feudal boundaries'

Even glamour itself is a relative term, despite its apparently inextricable link with a jet-set ideal. In the new-rich Arab states, a gold-plated limousine is neither excessive nor gaudy, yet what must foreigners, for all their obsession with our royal family, make of the Queen in wellies and a headscarf at Balmoral? As Lord Rosebery said of Queen Victoria's lack of grandeur, an empire should be ruled by a sceptre not a bonnet.

Dieter Rams, a contemporary "great white god" among the design-conscious and head of the design team at Braun since 1955, has done much to promote an anonymity of design. "It is bothersome," he

says, "to have to live with things which interfere." But his aesthetic has led not to a standardization of design but to a cult of good design which has set a style for a host of products, from electric razors and coffee percolators to typewriters and cars.

What is missing from such a design rhetoric is eccentricity. But while people might share aspirations - and increasingly view the same "catalogues of ideas" on their television sets - their perceptions always will be uniquely shaped by their own cultures and environments. National borders might have become mere feudal boundaries to the manufacturers of "globalized" products, but they are very real to the average consumer.

The Coke drink's "world in perfect harmony" might be one of visual blandness, but there is a real threat of global homogenization through the proliferation of identical products and brand names.

Tomorrow's technology lies in electronically-controlled production lines where batch production to meet specific local requirements becomes economically viable.

In the future, therefore, Raymond Loewy's aphorism that the better-designed product will always outsell its competitors will become of paramount importance to manufacturers and the designer will have free rein. The question then will be what kind of style different people in different places will want.

'It's unfashionable for the rich to be ostentatious'

Just as being design-conscious has ethical overtones, so has the notion of "naturalness" - hence the success of health food franchises, "natural" cosmetics and country-furnished interiors (stripped pine and chintz). As aesthetics are connected intimately to the means of production, perhaps a change in technology will introduce new ideas of good design, of style, even of glamour.

Already it is unfashionable for the very rich and famous to be ostentatious. Gone are the days of the Elizabeth Taylor Jewels and furs; people are now more concerned with the power to influence and convince than to browbeat. The demonstration of status and prestige through one's choice of design is perhaps already out-moded.

One of the first casualties of a shift in taste will be the concept of an international style that signifies luxury, first-class travel, a patronizing savoir-faire and a James Bond iconography of mat-black professionalism. In 50 years, our children will laugh at the idea that we could ever associate the "international" lifestyle with anything other than a thickening of the coronary arteries.



Designs on us: keeping the peace with a symbolic United Nations' stamp; designer Raymond Loewy, and Andy Warhol's immortalized Campbell's soup tin picture

Setting a precedent with strawberry jam

Suddenly the pick-your-own signs have sprouted in the hedgerows and there is a strawberry stall in every other lay-by. Street market barrows are heaped high with scarlet berries and prices, at the right time and place, are irresistibly low.

As it is plain to see from supermarket shelves, strawberry is the biggest selling flavour in jam, yoghurt and much else. But it is not the easiest fruit with which to make good home made jam, and the strawberry's greatest fan would not claim that it freezes well. Whatever kind of berry it started as, a thawed strawberry is floppy, slippery and a pale shade of its former self.

Big showy strawberries are the easiest kind to find and the worst sort for making the best strawberry jam which has small, not too squishy fruit suspended in bright, slightly runny jam. If you cannot grow or pick your own small berries then big berries it will have to be.

Acid, and pectin, which is a kind of gum, are the compo-

nents of fruit which react with sugar and heat to produce jams and marmalades which set well. Strawberries score low on both counts and even prolonged boiling of the jam does not necessarily ensure a good set and is certain to damage both the flavour and colour of the preserve.

Two easy remedies are available. Chemists sell bottles of pectin and acid mixture, and there are now jam-making sugars with pectin and acid already added. Both cost much the same - around 30p for two kilos, about four pounds of jam. Just four minutes boiling is enough to set jam made with this kind of sugar, so the flavour is exceptionally fresh even though the sugar adds a nondescript fruity taste of its own.

Quick strawberry jam
Makes about 2kg (4½ lb)
1kg (2½ lb) ripe strawberries
1kg (2½ lb) sugar with added pectin

Pick over the strawberries, then rinse and hull them. Put them in a preserving pan and break up the fruit with a wooden spoon. Add the sugar, stir and heat gently to dissolve the sugar. Bring to the boil and boil hard for four minutes.

Take the jam off the heat and let it stand for five minutes before potting it. This helps to stop the fruit rising to the top of the jars. Skim it thoroughly before pouring it into spotlessly clean jars which have been



Shona Crawford Poole



heated for 10 minutes in a cool oven (110°C/225°F, gas mark 4). Cover the pots immediately, while they are very hot, or leave them to cool completely before covering them. Covering them when they are warm encourages moulds. Label the jars and store them in a cool, dark place.

Redcurrant jelly is easy to make because the fruit has plenty of acid and pectin. It should not need prolonged boiling to reach setting point. For this reason, redcurrants combine well with poor setters like strawberries or raspberries to make mixed fruit jellies.

Redcurrant and raspberry jelly
Makes about 2.7 kg (6 lb)
1.35 kg (3 lb) redcurrants
1.35 kg (3 lb) raspberries

About 1.2 kg (2½ lb) sugar, see method

Pick over the redcurrants removing the leaves and the odd mouldy or damaged berry but do not bother to take them off their stalks. Pick over the raspberries too, then rinse both fruits in cold water. Drain them in a colander and put them in a preserving pan with no more liquid than the rinsing water clinging to them.

Set the pan on a medium heat, and breaking the berries against the sides of the pan with a wooden spoon, bring the fruit to the boil. Reduce the heat and simmer for 10 minutes, stirring to make sure that all the juices are released.

Tip the pulp into a scalded jelly bag and leave it to drip for an hour or two, or overnight. To improvise a jelly bag, line a large sieve with a well-boiled and still damp tea-cloth, or a triple layer of muslin; tip in the pulp, then gather up and knot the corners.

Measure the juice before returning it to the preserving pan and add 450g (1lb) sugar for every 600ml (1 pint) of juice. Heat gently, stirring until the sugar has dissolved completely, then boil as rapidly as possible to obtain a set. Start testing for setting point after three or four minutes of hard boiling. Drop a

small spoonful of the syrup on to a cold plate. If it stiffens and forms a skin quite quickly it will set.

Skim off the frothy scum and pour the jelly into spotlessly clean jars which have been heated in a cool oven (110°C/225°F, gas mark 4) for 10 minutes of so before filling. Cover the pots immediately, while they are very hot, or when they have cooled completely. Label the jars and store them in a cool, dark place.

Cumberland sauce, named, it is said, after Queen Victoria's uncle the Duke of Cumberland, has long been a traditional accompaniment to game. But it is also good with cold ham and tongue.

Cumberland sauce
Serves about ten
225g (8oz) good redcurrant jelly
150ml (½ pint) port

Finely grated zest and juice of 1 small orange

Finely grated zest and juice of ½ lemon

1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce

½ teaspoon cayenne pepper

Put the redcurrant jelly in a small saucepan with the port and heat them gently, stirring, until the jelly has dissolved. Strain the mixture until it has reduced by about one third then stir in the remaining ingredients. Mix well and pour into a jar or serving dish. Use when cold.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Private relations

After a secret meeting of governors at the weekend, the BBC will announce today how cuts of £65 million will fall over the next three years. The most sensational move, I can reveal, will be to abolish the BBC's press and publicity department, which is being blamed for failing to counter anti-BBC publicity. At the cost of scores of jobs, the department will be replaced by a private PR firm hired on the open market in a manner that would delight Mrs Thatcher. With Director General Alasdair Milne having already announced publicly that local radio is the corporation's lowest priority, I would also be feeling distinctly uneasy this morning if I had a job in Radio Scotland. In a usual move, I am told, all the local radio stations will link up today to hear the worst - live.

Family seat

I hope those candidates seeking the Labour nomination in the Mansfield and Heston constituency do not resort to personal attacks on their rivals. Not only is the GLC's moderate arts chief, Peter Pitt, going to stand against its left-wing transport chairman, Dave Wetzel, but I hear that Wetzel's wife Heather intends to take them both on.

To the rescue

Peter Palumbo is being unduly reticent about the background of the new chairman for his City Acre Property Investment Trust, Viscount De L'Isle. The extensive biography Palumbo has provided goes to great lengths to demonstrate that the viscount is well suited to the task of persuading the City that the Mansion House needs a new neighbour. Yet curiously it leaves out one aspect of De L'Isle's experience of the property business for several years he was chairman of the First National Finance Corporation. He led in 1975 its multi-million pound real estate ventures collapsed, forcing the government to throw it a lifeline to keep it afloat.

● Margaret Sandra, new Labour mayor of Lewisham, has started as she doubtless means to continue. She has ordered the traditional sable collar of the mayoral gown to be replaced by something synthetic in line with the council's animal rights charter.

Sandwich pickle

British Telecom has just issued a 20-page telephone directory for the British Open at Royal St George's in Sandwich. Inside are 200 "useful numbers of those in situ at the course, from the championship office to the *Kansas City Star* newspaper desk. The numbers are all preceded with the St George's exchange. The problem is, there isn't a St George's exchange - it should have been Sandwich. "Oh dear", said a BT spokesman yesterday. "I don't believe it."

BARRY FANTONI



"Personally I'd never join a union that would have me as a member"

Ken's stand-in

Why did Ken Livingstone "bottle out" and vote to set a legal GLC rate? Not, it seems, for being surcharged. In an interview that will appear in *Tribune* this week he reveals that he "cleared out" his post office savings bank account before the crucial meeting and gave the proceeds to a friend. He had also discussed how to surmount the subsequent ban on his standing as parliamentary candidate at Brent East. The constituency party would have put up a substitute candidate who "who would be committed to standing down for me as soon as a Labour government lifted the surcharge."

● Being a retiring fellow, London lawyer Julian Burton doesn't like standing out in the crowd, and pitched up at an official American Bar Association reception yesterday in designer tuxedo and tuxedo. Alas, every American was in pinstripes.

Whiplash

With Michael Cocks standing down as Labour chief whip to concentrate on wooing his recalcitrant party in Bristol South, could Labour soon be landed with another chief whip facing the threat of desertion? I understand that John Evans, employment spokesman, is soon to be Peter Snape, join Derek Foster and Norman Hogg as a candidate for the £33,590 post. Evans is being challenged for his seat in St Helens North by his own local party secretary. He insists he still hasn't decided.

PHS

Don't let this right be arrested

by Walter Merricks

Political and administrative mismanagement by the Lord Chancellor and his officials is threatening implementation of the most far-reaching legal reform of the century - the Police and Criminal Evidence Act, due to be brought into force at the beginning of next year.

Although the Lord Chancellor is responsible only for matters concerning legal aid, a minor part of the Act, the entire carefully balanced package could be held up by his lack of planning. Efforts by the Home Secretary to publish supplementary codes of practice for the police have already been stalled for three months.

The Police Act contains a careful mix of provisions, first put forward by the Royal Commission of Criminal Procedure, then refined and hammered out through the longest parliamentary passage of any bill in recent times.

The crucial safeguard for the citizen in the Act, designed to balance strengthened police powers, is the right of access to a lawyer when in the police station. The government accepts that lawyers would have to be given a guarantee of payment from public funds for this to be made a reality and that the

service would have to be free of charge. This, it claimed, was a major commitment both in policy and financial terms.

The Law Society duly started planning for a national duty solicitor scheme to cover England and Wales, so that solicitors would be on call 24 hours a day.

But all concerned reckoned without a disastrous underestimate of the cost. The Lord Chancellor's department had forecast an annual bill of around £6 million - a figure which always looked suspiciously low, but based, it was claimed, on the latest assumptions about likely demand. In March a pilot study was conducted which predicted that the likely cost would be nearer £20 million.

Since then government planning has been immobilized while a furious battle is fought out between the Lord Chancellor, the Home Office and the Treasury. Meanwhile the Law Society has been unable to recruit solicitors to run the emergency panels or to put in place the complex administrative arrangements.

The police were originally resistant to the idea of regular legal advice to suspects, but having accepted it they are now sincerely trying to make it work. From their point of view a properly organized duty solicitor scheme is essential if investigative time is not to be wasted in abortive calls to busy solicitors. Nor do the police wish to be exposed to allegations of favouritism in the allocation of solicitors' work.

The police training programme has proceeded as planned, and in some areas police have been operating as if the Act were already in force. Without the duty solicitor rosters in place, some solicitors are being delayed with late-night calls, to the fury of the Law Society, which was not even envisaged. It is now likely to demand that the Home Secretary delay formal implementation of the legislation concerned with police powers.

From the Lord Chancellor's department there is still an embarrassed silence while the scramble to find the money continues. In the meantime, it has boldly proposed to

the Home Office a delay in implementing of the right to free legal advice when the rest of the Act comes into force.

Many vital decisions remain to be taken, including the remuneration to be offered to solicitors. Nor is it clear whether any central facilities for locating duty solicitors will be accessible to friends and relatives of those arrested. The most tempting way for the government to divert attention from its own incompetence would be to make an unacceptably low last-minute offer of remuneration to solicitors and then to blame the resulting fiasco on a grasping legal profession - always an easy scapegoat.

But this is not an issue on which the lawyers should have to fight alone. The establishment of a well-organized and properly funded legal access scheme for police stations is something that should concern every citizen. Any one of us could fall under police suspicion, rightly or wrongly, and would need the protection originally envisaged by Parliament.

The author is a member of the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure.

Paul Vallely reveals how US know-how has let down the Sudanese

Khartoum

It was the famine which could be prevented, or so confident aid workers were saying eight months ago. Yet today, despite the launch of probably the biggest distribution of free food in history - now boosted by Live Aid - thousands of people will die in the remote desert wastes of western Sudan. Thousands will die tomorrow and every day until the next harvest is garnered in the autumn. The UN predicts that the death toll could easily be more than half a million.

For the government of the United States the failure is a great embarrassment. The Sudanese relief operation was to have been a copybook example of the superiority of private sector management over the perverse distortions and callous inequities produced when aid is manipulated as a political weapon, as it is by the Soviet-backed regime in neighbouring Ethiopia. In the event the Reagan administration's insistence that the relief operation should be run as a commercial venture has forced the \$400 million programme into an ideological straitjacket as inhibiting as Ethiopia's socialist central planning.



Relief - but there are not enough lorries and many are now bogged down by rain

The first alarm bells were sounded in Darfur in June 1983 when the then governor of the region, Ahmed Ibrahim Dirri, published a report which talked of some areas in the north which had had five successive years of drought. Hundreds of thousands of farmers were moving to the more fertile south which in bad years had often supported the north but where, in 1983, there had already been two years with poor rains, bad harvests and a noticeable decline in soil fertility.

There were serious cabinet sessions as a result. President Nimeiry had been touting the idea that Sudan could become the breadbasket of the Arab world in an attempt to draw investment from the oil-rich Arab states, which he was also trying to woo with his introduction of Sharia law only three months later; he refused to countenance the idea of famine. Nothing was done. A high-level UN mission to the region reported chronic problems from years of bad land use and changing rainfall patterns, but no imminent crisis. Dirri, whose report and plan of action were to prove the blueprint for all future relief plans, went into exile at the end of the year.

The rains failed throughout Darfur for a third year, then a fourth. In May 1984 Oxfam and Save the Children Fund workers involved in a vaccination programme and nutritional surveys in the region sounded a second alarm. They told a visiting mission from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) of 100 per cent crop failures in the north and 50 per cent failures in the south. Oxfam nutritionists warned that the average child in Darfur was already malnourished. They spoke of a need for food aid to fulfil the entire basic needs of almost the whole population. Warning signs of impending disaster were already present - there was no seed for the next harvest and foods normally used only for last resort famine subsistence were being sold in the markets.

Famine errors that have killed thousands

transport system controlled by western private enterprise.

It was a bold and generous plan but not one of pure altruism. Nimeiry, America's staunchest ally in the Horn of Africa, was now totally dependent on US support for his continued rule; well-informed sources here say the food aid offer was conditional on an agreement to dump US nuclear waste in the remote deserts of Darfur.

The scheme was also in line with Reaganite economic ideology which had already tempered the policy of both USAID and the World Bank in Sudan. The Americans had for almost four years been increasingly directing aid money to the private rather than the nationalized sector.

The cost of sending by rail the food and the fuel needed to distribute it at the other end was still one third of that by road. Arkel-Talab the company awarded the distribution contract, decided to maximise their profits by using the railway; they were careful to insert a clause in their contract absolving them of any responsibility for delays on the railway.

When organizations such as Save the Children and the UN tried to set up convoys to do this Arkel-Talab and USAID refused to give them any grain to carry. Ken Willis, the manager of Arkel-Talab at Kosti, told Save the Children: "You're trying to cut me out of the market. I've got to make a profit, you don't. This relief work is not charity. It helps the US farmer who has excess grain. It helps the US silo man and the US shipping line. It helps a government which is a friend of the US. It helps a US company here in Sudan which then sends dollars back to the US. You want to rock the boat and upset that."

This week, with the railway line out of operation after being washed away in nine places by flash floods USAID has finally agreed to provide food for a mile-long Save the Children convoy which is due to leave Kosti today. "We will do our best, of course," said Michael Dick, of SCF, "but really it is too late now that the rains have come, making distribution so difficult at the other end. If we had our way those road convoys would have started in February."

USAID has now sent a mission to Saudi Arabia to obtain 100 lorries and is talking of the far more costly alternative of aircraft and helicopters.

With hindsight USAID, or at least its critics here, can make an easy catalogue of errors. It ignored the recommendation of every report on the railways that even with the system operating at its best lorries would also be needed; it badly underestimated the speed with which the money from its own aid counterpart funds could be recovered within Sudan; it did not look with sufficient care at the possibility of bringing in food from the Atlantic ports through Chad - as one German agency has successfully done. It handed out the contract to a

University finance: a solution spurned

Andrew Gamble

Many leading members of the Cabinet claim to have been influenced by the ideas of F. A. Hayek. But what must Hayek be thinking of his management of the public sector? Far from declining, government intervention seems to be increasing. The essence of a free market, Hayek would explain to ministers if he were consulted, is that buyers are sovereign, knowledge is dispersed, and decision-making decentralized. Hayek believes that market solutions to social problems are inherently superior to government solutions because the knowledge available to a central bureaucracy can never match the knowledge dispersed throughout a market.

Applied to universities, these principles would suggest that the best way to encourage university autonomy and diversity, at the same time reducing central interference and ensuring that universities are responsive to the demands and needs of their students, would be to introduce student loans.

direct control of the universities and reshape them as part of a programme of national economic recovery.

Instead, it operates indirectly, reducing the total funds available for universities, while leaving the formulation of policy to the University Grants Committee (which is to interpret what it thinks university wants universities to do. The results would not surprise any student of the behaviour of large bureaucracies. At present the UGC is seeking to measure and compare university research in 27 different "cost-centres". Since no one believes any objective central measures can be devised, there is widespread cynicism about the eventual decisions on which cost centres should continue to receive research funding.

The effects on universities of such central interference are considerable. More staff time is devoted to "revenue-raising" activities. Research output multiplies in the fields which are most measurable. The teaching of undergraduates slips still further down the list of priorities.

Suffering under this new tyranny of creeping bureaucratic control, many people are coming to appreciate some of the more benign aspects of markets. Student loans now seem a lesser evil than central interference if they were used to provide universities with an independent financial basis. Universities would be free to expand once more since they would no longer be confined by centrally defined quotas on student numbers. They would be free to accept all who were capable of benefiting from higher education and to charge fees according to the cost of different degrees.

What the government is doing instead is to reduce its financial commitment to universities while imposing centrally defined objectives and standards in the name of economic rationalization. It is sometimes pretended that this is a "market" solution because it is intended to make universities more responsive to business needs. This merely confuses the idea of markets with the interests of one set of actors within them. Government imposes the solution it wants through its control of university finances. It establishes its own definition of national needs and uses this to tell students which subjects they should be expanding.

What the country needs, according to the government's recent green paper, are more graduates in business studies, engineering and applied science, an end to "anti-business" snobbery, and many more links between universities and private companies.

Many subjects in the arts, social sciences and pure sciences, which are likely to be severely squeezed by the way the UGC interprets government prejudices, might then receive much greater patronage, as they do in many countries where loan schemes are now in operation.

There would be other advantages too. Universities would be obliged to pay more attention to teaching their students. Students would become more critical and demanding, as many mature students already are. Teaching would gain in importance; more time and effort would have to be devoted to it.

So why has this government failed to introduce student loans? Ministers keep floating the idea. A partial student loan is still promised. But every initiative so far has been vetoed. The reason is not hard to find. A genuine scheme which ensured access to higher education for everyone who wanted it would increase public expenditure in the short run. Even in the long run the Treasury believes the savings would not be great. This has so far ruled out any scheme.

Higher education continues to suffer declining real resources, a freeze on recruitment, and fewer student places, together with increasing interference "in the national interest". Within the limits of this government's philosophy student loans are the only policy which might protect university autonomy. Failure to introduce them has condemned the universities to a continual and demoralizing decline. Here is one more reason why Mrs Thatcher's Britain is such a depressing place to live in.

The author is lecturer in politics at Sheffield University.

Why should ministers pursue such a perverse policy and go on line with their declared principles? As in local government the cabinet has been forced to become a reluctant centralizer because it has failed to carry through any of the radical options open to it. It has edged towards greater central control because it gives overriding priority to bolder down public expenditure. Yet though it may wish to reverse the decline of the economy it is not prepared to take

moreover... Miles Kington

Charles Darwin evolved here

One of the commonest complaints among sightseers in Europe is that everything is so heavily geared towards religion. Ninety per cent of top buildings are churches or cathedrals, festivals are almost invariably Christian by nature and interesting sights seem to be a monopoly of the church. Several readers have pointed out to me that 90 per cent of sightseers are probably, in the nicest possible way, agnostic, and would it not be possible for me to list some of the main attractions likely to appeal to their beliefs?

never run a collection of people he didn't believe in, a remark later stolen by Groucho Marx.

The Doubting Play, Unterammergau. Every 10 years or so, the people of this remote German village put on a medieval drama devoted to the saint of Desires, Thomas, a disciple who seemed more in tune with agnosticism than the rest of them put together. The climax of the play comes with the re-enactment of the Last Supper, where Thomas stays behind to argue endlessly over the bill, and misses the rest of Easter.

Gladiators and gentlemen. Here, for what I believe is the first time, is a guide to the top humanist attractions on the main tourist routes.

Musée de l'Existentialisme, Paris. What's it all about, then? Where do we go from here? Did Sartre get it right? If so, what did he get right? These are just a few of the questions asked but not answered in this fascinating museum devoted to the last-but-not-least philosophical trend in France. There are many historic photographs of Albert Camus looking puzzled, Simone de Beauvoir looking for Jean-Paul Sartre and of Jean-Paul Sartre facing both ways. The curator will, if asked nicely, take you into the archives to see the correspondence between de Beauvoir and Sartre, which asks many questions such as: What's it all about then? Where were you last Thursday? Opening hours: problematical.

Tombs of the Unknown Thinker, Arles. Why Arles? Well, why ever not? Is the message behind this modest shrine of Pierre Miquelin, a follower of Desires, whose motto was: "I think, therefore I am, I think". The secular flame burning at the shrine keeps going out the whole time and is relit by one tourist who happens to be there.

Woodhenge, Wiltshire. Supposedly a sampling place for Druids, the site may or may not have had standing planks until the Middle Ages - no trace of them has ever been found. It is said that on Midsummer Day the sun always rises here in thick mist. Cricketer Museum, Lord's, England. We close up right in to bat? Shall we watch them put them in for a few minutes of a Test match there is always a strong emphasis on the lack of decision five days away - nothing as ever quite achieved the spirit of the draw as international cricket has the draw, the sporting equivalent of the no-know situation. Open every day, light permitting.

Belfast Airport. Don't miss the unique immigration area with its three channels: Catholic, Protestant and Don't Know.

Tombs of Paganism, Greece. Paganism was the Greek philosopher who first put forward the idea that maybe the Greek gods and goddesses really existed but humanity was mythical. As evidence he pointed to the fact that much more was known about the Greek gods than ordinary Greek people. Where does Plato go after dark? he wanted to know. And why does Socrates never give a straight answer to a straight question? The people of Athens asked him to become dictator of the City, but he refused on the grounds that he could

held by Labour six are women: a favourable comparison with the 3 per cent of women in the Commons as a whole. One, Hilary Armstrong, succeeds her father Ernest as candidate for North-west Durham. Among Labour's best hopes for gains, two seats have already chosen women - Gaye Johnson in Swindon and Jenny Edwards in Westminster North.

Difficulties may still await some Labour MPs such as Gerry Birmingham (St Helens South), Robert Kilroy-Silk (Knowsley North), Peter Shore (Bethnal Green/Stepney), John Silkin (Deptford) and George Robertson (Hamilton). By no means all of these, however, are right-wingers facing left-wing challenges, and are that Labour will not be as embarrassed by the selection and reselection of candidates as was once feared.

Robert Waller

The author is a lecturer in politics at Trinity College, Oxford.

Port Sudan they cut through the inefficiencies of unloading ships by introducing a new mechanized system. Although this has undoubtedly stored up union problems for the future, it has proved far more efficient than anything devised in other countries where relief efforts have become enmeshed in the lines of communication between the national government and their various international and voluntary agencies. But when the railway operations seized up in February, Arkel-Talab's need to make a profit prevented them from taking the obvious but expensive step of ferrying the food direct to the west by road.

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Several GLC members are believed to be in the running for attractive vacancies to be decided shortly, such as Hynburn and Oxford East. The MEPs Joyce Quin and Bob Cryer seek to migrate to Westminster.

The next general election will almost certainly witness the election of black and Asian MPs. Bernie Grant, black leader of Haringey Council, has just been chosen in place of Norman Atkinson, of Tottenham. Paul Boateng was selected from an all-black shortlist at Brent South, which has the highest proportion of non-white voters in the country. Keith Yaz has been chosen for Leicester East, which is nearly 30 per cent Asian and is likely to fall to Labour on any significant national swing.

Several former MPs are likely to return to Parliament either for different constituencies (Audrey Wise, Bob Cryer, Joan Lester), or for their old seats (Jim Marshall, Ken Woolmer, John Speller, Philip Whitehead, Gwyn Roberts, Stan Newens, Ossie O'Brien).

Of the 24 replacement candidates already chosen in seats currently

Labour's new faces for the 1990s

We are already in a position to identify some of the new faces likely to enter the House of Commons as MPs at the next general election. We now know the candidates for seats where sitting Labour MPs have announced their retirement, and for those seats targeted by Labour. A number of interesting patterns have emerged.

The selection process shows there has been no general trend towards the far left, and indeed in many cases the challenge of the Trotskyist Militant Tendency has been beaten off.

In several seats - Glasgow Provan, Glasgow Pollok and Gateshead East, for example - far left hopes that the new candidate would support Militant policies were dashed. Dennis Skinner's brother Gordon was not picked in Labour's fourth-best hope of a gain from the Tories, the Nottinghamshire mining seat of Sherwood, which has persevered with its 1993 candidate, the Leicester solicitor Willie Bach.

On a personal level, Kinnoch must be pleased with the selection of a member of his personal staff, John Reid, in Labour's fourth-safest seat, Motherwell, a North, and of his brother-in-law Colin Parry in Ynys Mon (Anglesey), another possible gain from the Tories.

Council bosses have done well. Besides Ken Livingstone, the talents of Sheffield's blind leader David Blunkett, will almost certainly be transferred to Parliament as he takes over from Joan Maynard as candidate for Brightside. The Derbyshire County Council leader David Bookbinder remains the prospective candidate for the eminently winnable Amber Valley.

Some of the MPs who have retired probably would have found difficulties in being reelected, but by no means all. Many veteran figures voluntarily decided to call it a day. Former *Tribune* editor and political novelist Curtis Milin, taking over as candidate from Gordon Bagier in Sunderland South, is one of the few clear left-wingers. On most issues the redoubtable anti-monarchist Willie Hamilton of Fife Central could be counted as right-wing Labour - unlike his successor, footballer Henry McLeish.



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BAR AGAINST REFORM

Six years ago the Royal Commission on Legal Services delivered its final and lengthy report on the legal profession. On the question of the solicitors' conveyancing monopoly it recommended "no change". On the question of the Bar's exclusive right of audience in the higher courts, it again recommended "no change" of any significance. For those favouring radical reform of our creaking and increasingly costly legal system, the Benson Commission was an expensive waste of time.

Now, however, in the wake of the pressure from the Consumer's Association the Government has been forced to think again and has decided to open up the solicitors' conveyancing monopoly to some modest competition from "licensed conveyancers". It has also taken steps to improve the solicitors' disciplinary procedures although it has done nothing to introduce parallel measures for barristers. Part One of the Administration of Justice Bill - which receives its third reading in the Commons today - will therefore enable the Law Society to reduce or cancel a solicitor's costs for shoddy workmanship. It does not go as far as the recommendations by Coopers & Lybrand for setting up an independent Solicitors' Complaints Board similar to the General Medical Council.

The Bill now looks a timid and apologetic affair. It does not really concern "justice" at all. It is little more in reality than Mr Austin Mitchell's "house-buyers Bill" dressed up in different clothes and with a few miscellaneous administrative clauses tacked on the end. Its grandiloquent title cannot disguise the fact that it is a hopelessly lopsided Bill which, while dealing with one side of the profession's monopoly interests, totally fails to deal with the equally restrictive and expensive monopoly interests of the other branch of the profession, namely the Bar's exclusive rights of

audience in the higher courts and to senior judicial posts. Indeed, it is largely as a result of having a split legal profession with rigid and inflexible demarcation lines that the cost of litigation has escalated out of all proportion and put "justice" beyond the reach of many ordinary people.

At the very mention of the word "reform" the Bar automatically jumps to the conclusion that reformers are trying to fuse the professions. With dull regularity it trots out the Benson Commission findings that a separate corps of specialist advisers and advocates should be maintained in the public interest. But even if that may be true it does not mean to say that the Bar should be allowed to perpetuate all of its rigid and expensive restrictive practices. A truly specialist Bar ought to rely not so much on its own restrictive practices to protect and maintain its independence as on the excellence of its advocacy and the genuinely specialist services that it is able to provide to the lay client.

The Master of the Rolls hinted last year that the legal profession must increasingly move towards a system modelled on the medical profession with the solicitor acting in the same role as a GP, and a barrister in much the same role as the consultant or surgeon. If that is to happen the Bar must accept major changes to its present Code of Conduct. The Government should now give due warning to the Bar that if it does not reform itself it will have to be brought under statutory control.

The Bar must take immediate steps to relax the rule that a solicitor or his clerk should be present before a barrister can advise or represent his client. This rule is now systematically broken in many magistrates' courts where the financial strictures of the legal aid system are forcing barristers to appear on their own and without a solicitor or his clerk. If this practice was extended up to the higher

courts, in particular to the Court of Appeal where solicitors often find themselves unnecessary but expensive appendages, the cost of litigation would be dramatically reduced.

A relaxation of this fundamental rule would also enable a client to see a barrister in conference unaccompanied by a solicitor just as a patient might be referred to a consultant by a GP. Direct access to the Bar after referral by a solicitor, would have the further effect of forcing the Bar to change its custom of having no contractual relations with the client or instructing solicitor. This manifestly absurd rule leaves the barrister unable to sue anyone for his fees and the solicitor with the unenviable duty of having to extract counsel's fees from the client. The rule also enables barristers to drop a case at the last minute with all the consequences that this may entail for a defendant faced with serious criminal charges. In any other circumstances such a last minute change of plan would amount to an automatic breach of contract.

The Bar should also concede that solicitors be given extended rights of audience in the Crown Court and High Court. While complex trials would remain the province of specialist advocates there are many short applications which could be done equally well by a solicitor.

The American Bar Association - now in conference in London - may learn much from our legal system - that costs should rightly fall on the shoulders of unsuccessful litigants and that legal aid is preferable to the contingency fee system. But British lawyers could learn much about how cases are worked up by a team of lawyers operating out of one building rather than two sets of premises - a solicitor's office and a barrister's chambers. The Bar might even conclude that coming face to face with the general public is not as bad as it might seem.

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TIME FOR ANOTHER BONFIRE

If there is a building or other land used for a purpose of any class specified in the Schedule to this order, the use of such building or other land for any other purpose of the same class shall not be deemed for the purposes of the Act to involve development of the land.

Here is the regulatory State at work. This clause has nothing to do with socialism - it was signed into effect by a Conservative minister who still sits at the Cabinet table - yet it is about detailed government intervention in the use of private property. It regulates high street shops. For a shop to change its stock in trade is, mostly, permitted. But a shop must not become a restaurant, a kebab house, a fast food outlet, a fish-and-chip shop. That is a form of economic change to be controlled, subjected to convoluted and lengthy procedure involving town hall officers and appeals to ministers. Never mind that the provision of hot food is a startling source of new jobs and investment. The planning system is oblivious. Its operations have been allowed to become anti-growth, anti-job and, worst of all, anachronistic. The Schedule referred to in the clause above (from the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1972) contains a classification of businesses drafted in the 1940s.

To remove that clause or, at least, to modernize it could be done at the stroke of a ministerial pen. It needs no precious Parliamentary time. Here would be an easy, symbolic act for a government committed to lifting the burden of State regulation. It is missing from yesterday's White Paper.

Perhaps Lord Young tried. Perhaps he was balked by ministerial colleagues fearful of pressure groups, amenity lobbies

and knots of angry constituents offended by catering trade at the bottom of their road. The White Paper did, it is true, broach the issue: a wise committee of planning experts and surveyors is to report later in the year, and then there will be consultation with local authorities - and still the ministerial pen will hesitate. The subject, the Secretary of State for the Environment said yesterday, is "complicated and sensitive".

Such is the spirit of the White Paper. It is not the document one should expect of a radical government. Past mistakes go unacknowledged - the imposition of costs and constraints on employers in the Statutory Sick Pay scheme. Brussels becomes an all-too-convenient scapegoat, preventing the government reducing the burden of Value Added Tax on small businesses. Imprisoning the employers of part-time workers in a prison of statutory rights. Euro-regulation of employment is indeed burdensome. Lord Young's enthusiastic presentation of that message across the Channel is commendable. But the government's complaints would ring more convincingly if it had itself moved dramatically on any of the great frontiers of regulation - of wages, hiring and firing staff, hours and women's work.

Measuring a negative is not easy. There is only uncertain evidence how far the State's regulation of business saps entrepreneurial effort and the creation of jobs. But it is a plausible proposition that, given macro-economic conditions, deregulation makes work - one made all the more credible by transatlantic comparisons. Let it be put to the test. What might be the cost? Is the construction industry so full of would-be

jerry-builders that relaxation of planning, fire and materials controls will produce a rash of unsafe structures? Is business ethics so debased that elimination of audit requirements for small companies will produce mountains of fraud and mismanagement?

Deregulation, in the terms of the White Paper, is something that can be built into Whitehall. Lord Young proposes on the one hand to help people cope better with regulation by making it simpler and clearer. On the other, there is to be a deregulation unit (requiring the paradoxical employment of extra civil servants) matched by deregulation specialists deployed in the offending departments. All this could be useful.

But dismantling the State will require some larger effort that is as much educational as administrative. The Secretary of State with responsibility for town and country planning regulation is also the MP for Wandsworth and Woodford; the Prime Minister is also the MP for Finchley. Both, and their colleagues, have the task of educating supporters that residents of the leafy suburbs too must make some small sacrifice to get Britain's economy moving. They and their Conservative councillors must give up the State apparatus they pray in aid to halt development on "their" high streets and "their" unused lands. Similarly professional people who want their monopolies and restrictive practice protected by government; creditors and shareholders who want the State to insulate them against risk; airlines and shipping companies offended by competition. And so on: the politics of deregulation are fraught with offence. The prize, British economic regeneration, is well worth the rancour.

at its worst, then conceivably some of us must be Dutchmen.

Let us, however, be fair. For many years, there was indeed a "curtain of ignorance" in American perceptions of China and of the "two Chinas". In both Vietnam wars the decisive intervention was from Moscow, not Peking. For the wrong motives, Greene did, in *A Curtain of Ignorance*, expose some of the prevailing fallacies. Yours very truly, BRIAN CRUZIER, Kilm House, Dulais Avenue, Finchley, N3.

Kremlin changes

From Professor Marcus Wheeler
Sir, Your calendar of "key dates" in Mr Gromyko's career (July 3, p.6) contains one small but interesting error. Gromyko's immediate predecessor as USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs was not the veteran Mr

Molotov but Dr D. T. Shepilov. The latter, as Chief Editor of *Pravda* newspaper, undertook an important mission to Egypt for Mr Khrushchev in 1955 and, when appointed Foreign Minister next year, was regarded by the pundits as Khrushchev's man, much as Mr Shevardnadze is now being presented by Western commentators as a "Gorbachev man".

Shepilov, however, turned against his master and lost his post through his involvement in the 1957 plot against Khrushchev engineered by Molotov and others (Now long since forgotten, he rejoiced for a while in the label sarcastically conferred upon him by Khrushchev of "Shepilov-who-joined-them"). It may be unwise to judge Mr Shevardnadze too hastily.

Yours etc, MARCUS WHEELER, Department of Slavonic Studies, The Queen's University of Belfast, Belfast, Northern Ireland, July 4.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need to soothe Irish worries

From Lord Brookeborough and Sir John Biggs-Davison, MP for Epping Forest (Conservative)

Sir, Despite the media comments, there is nothing unprecedented about the re-routing of Ulster parades, and the violence at Portadown is inexcusable. Nor is there anything new about official consultations and co-operation between North and South (Free State or Republic).

The current talks, however, have been bedevilled by rumours, leaks and fears about the possible intrusion of a Southern presence into judicial and other institutions of Northern Ireland. Such fears have been fed by Dr Garret FitzGerald's praise of the Royal Ulster Constabulary in terms inappropriate to the premier of another sovereign state.

If the province is now to be calmed and the unique relationship with Dublin usefully pursued, her Majesty's Government must remove its hands from the Ulster situation of "betrayal" by forsaking further "initiatives" other than in the field of purely administrative devolution.

What is needed from Dublin, and is in the interest of the Republic as well as the United Kingdom, is an all-out joint offensive against those whom Dr FitzGerald described as "the common enemy". Earlier IRA campaigns were, and the present IRA campaign can be, ended if the political will genuinely exists in both countries.

We have the honour to remain, Sir, your obedient servants, BROOKEBOROUGH, JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON, House of Commons, July 15.

Atomic research

From the Ambassador of Pakistan

Sir, Dr David Owen's article (July 8) gives the erroneous impression that Pakistan is poised to acquire nuclear weapons. The Government of Pakistan and its President have repeatedly declared that Pakistan would not produce nor acquire nuclear weapons and that our modest-sized atomic research programme is solely for peaceful purposes.

Pakistan has offered to sign the non-proliferation treaty the day India signs it. It has offered to India a mutual inspection of each other's nuclear facilities. It is prepared to enter into a bilateral treaty with India for renouncing nuclear weapons. What greater proof can there be of Pakistan's intention not to produce nuclear weapons?

Pakistan makes a small quantity of nuclear fuel for the 137-MW nuclear power plant in Karachi but it is not weapon grade. Pakistan is against nuclear proliferation but it does not want to be singled out for discriminatory treatment. Short of this, Pakistan does need more atomic energy for power generation and this should be appreciated by the leaders of the so-called nuclear club.

Yours faithfully, ALI ARSHAD, Embassy of Pakistan, 35 Lowndes Square, SW1, July 10.

Legal outlook

From Mr Michael Sears

Sir, Neither Robert Alexander's special pleading nor Basil Yoxall's special complaining (July 6) justify the continuation of the "two-branch profession". The inescapable fact is that the public have to pay twice, whether their retainer includes the barrister's brief fee paid at the commercial Bar (where Mr Alexander practises) or the assessed contribution at the legal-aid Bar (where Mr Yoxall complains of only £127 per day).

Indeed why should barristers any more than solicitors, accountants, surveyors and the rest of the professionals be preserved and protected from competition in a modern society? The legal profession must evolve along with the system of law which exists to serve everyone, not just the barristers.

It is not merely insulting, but also arrogant to suggest that opening the Bar to solicitors would affect "the quality of future judges". Not all of us in the legal profession are as convinced or as complacent as Mr Alexander and Mr Yoxall about either the calibre of the Bench or the standards of advocacy at the Bar.

Many of us think that broadening the franchise to include at least solicitors (if not other intelligent citizens as well) would do a lot to bring much-needed common sense and perspective to a profession where there is still far too much emphasis on exclusivity, pomp, old-boy networks and expensive and irrelevant traditions.

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL SEARS, Sears Tooth & Co. Solicitors, 14 Harley Street, W1, July 8.

Future of universities

From Dr T. A. Delchar

Sir, Your columns have in recent weeks carried many letters dwelling on the related problems of the future of the universities in this country and the way we should be responding to the growing shortage of electronics personnel of all kinds.

I act as secretary to the final-year board of examiners of the School of Electronics in this university and we have just completed the task of awarding degrees in engineering electronics and physical electronics. At the conclusion of this task I discovered, on talking to one of our mature students (25 years old), to whom we had awarded a 2(i) degree, that he was taking up employment with British Telecom at £11,000 per annum.

This may not in itself seem

Live Aid lessons for modern world

From Rabbi E. Gastwirth

Sir, The quite extraordinary success of the Live Aid concert organised by Bob Geldof must have a profound lesson for the nation's leaders, both political and religious.

It is obvious that young people both need and want something to believe in that is greater and beyond themselves. Their cynicism is well founded. Where is the genuine religious leadership that can offer a self-sacrificing spiritual ideal or a vision like that displayed by Bob Geldof in his concern for suffering humanity?

Why have religious and political leaders so miserably failed to offer the youth of this country something worth while to live for? Religious leaders have been preoccupied with Church membership and theological discussions questioning the existence of God, while political leaders vie with each other to offer greater bribes in the quest for power.

There is probably more latent idealism among young people now than ever before. But who is there to raise their sights and to show them a vision of goodness and holiness?

For "without vision, the people grow wild" (1st Pt. 141, "the people perish"), Proverbs 29:18. Yours faithfully, E. GASTWIRTH, 3 Falcon Court, Park Street, Salford, Greater Manchester, July 15.

From Mr W. H. O'Neill

Sir, The outstanding response of the Irish people to the Live Aid Appeal (at over £1 per head) is typical of their approach to all famine situations.

When I was Deputy Director of Christian Aid I found that, although our appeals for the famine in Malawi and again in the Sahel were only directed at the UK, the response from Southern Ireland was many times greater, per capita, than the UK itself.

My own belief is that this amazing generosity stems from their deep-seated folk memory of their own

"Great Famine" - they feel that they know what famine means.

Yours truly, W. H. O'NEILL, 10 Osborne Court, Ewell Road, Surbiton, Surrey, July 15.

From Mr R. O. Stonehouse

Sir, How marvellous if public benefactor Bob Geldof, with his undoubted organizational talents and great influence over young people, could now harness his team of pop stars and his resources worldwide to tackle that other great destroyer of mainly young people - drug abuse - which, unlike famine, is man-made and doesn't end when the rains arrive.

Yours faithfully, R. O. STONEHOUSE, Rhyd y Ffwrn, Castle Morris, Haverfordwest, Dyfed, July 15.

From Mr P. S. Keyte

Sir, Is it really appropriate to consider nominating as a candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize a man responsible for shattering the peace of the world by promoting no less than 16 hours of global non-stop rock "music"? Three cheers for Barry Fantoni (*The Times* Diary, July 15).

Yours faithfully, P. S. KEYTE, 4 Broad Oak Copple, Boxhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, July 15.

From Mr J. S. C. Mitchell

Sir, How can the collection box compete with credit card charity?

Yours faithfully, J. S. C. MITCHELL, Rose Cottage, Wilbury Park, Cholderton, Wiltshire, July 15.

Protection of UK salmon stocks

From the President of The Atlantic Salmon Trust and others

Sir, In 1962 HM Government brought in legislation banning all drift netting for salmon off the entire Scottish coast. We understand that the Norwegian Government is considering similar action. Meanwhile, drift netting for salmon remains legal off most of the coast of England and Wales.

The Northumbrian and the Yorkshire water authorities continue to issue licences for drift netting for salmon in the fisheries over which they have jurisdiction, and full advantage is being taken of this, by fishermen operating non-motifield and other types of invisible nylon nets, off the coast of Northumberland and North Yorkshire.

The drift net catch of salmon declared to these water authorities is upwards of 60,000 annually. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has estimated that about 95 per cent of the fish taken are destined for the eastern rivers of Scotland, where recorded catches have fallen very seriously in recent years.

Over the past 25 years, HMG has commissioned various reports, including the Bledisloe report of 1961 and the Hunter reports of 1963 and 1965. In 1979 HMG acknowledged that legislation was necessary to protect British salmon stocks, but little of real significance has been done.

We believe that if the valuable salmon resource of the UK is to be preserved, HMG must take urgent

action to update the old and enact new salmon fisheries legislation. We suggest that a ban on drift netting for salmon off the entire English and Welsh coasts, as is already the case in Scottish waters, should be introduced and that salmon fisheries legislation in general should be updated and revised, in order to deal with the new circumstances of the present day.

Yours faithfully, WELLINGTON, President, Atlantic Salmon Trust, E. S. EARL, Chairman, National Fishermen's Council, PETER GIFFARD, President, Country Landowners' Association, NEIL W. GRAESSER, Chairman, Association of Scottish District Salmon Fishery Boards, HOME, President, The Salmon & Trout Association, JOHN HOPKINSON, Director, British Field Sports Society, J. D. JONES, Chairman, Welsh Salmon & Trout Angling Association, LANDSOWNE, Fishmongers' Company, P. C. MACDONALD, President, Scottish Anglers' National Association, PATRICK M. SELLARS, Chairman, The Salmon Net Fishing Association of Scotland, ROBERT STEWART, President, The Scottish Landowners' Federation, T. WALKER, Chairman, World Wildlife Fund (UK), Stratfield Saye House, Reading, Berkshire, July 16.

Consultants in NHS

From Dr B. Thalasingam

Sir, Your July 8 leader on National Health Service consultants was long overdue. The growth in popularity of private in-patient care over the years should have led the Government to encourage NHS consultants to work full time at a specific hospital.

One of the urgent problems you did not mention is closure of the so-called "small hospitals" which serve communities of under 80,000 people with a birthrate of 1,000 babies a year. These communities are isolated with poor public transport and high unemployment.

This is the time to develop "small" district general hospitals of about 250 beds which can be manned by two or three consultants in each main specialty.

Appointing full-time consultant obstetricians, anaesthetists, paediatricians etc specifically to work in these hospitals will help the Government to carry out its promise of consultant expansion.

There are also many new private hospitals mushrooming in different parts of the country of smaller size than I have in mind where NHS consultants do their surgical operations daily and even at weekends.

The "distinction award" system for consultants has been discredited by authoritative articles over the years in the *British Medical Journal* and other publications. So it is surprising that the Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration, fifteenth report, 1985, states that "neither the profession nor the departments proposed any changes" in the awards. This is ample evidence of blunt patronage, as I believe at least the majority, if not all, who represented the consultants are distinction award holders or soon will be.

It is especially delightful to read your leader soon after the NHS debate in the House of Commons. The so-called experts who spoke did not mention these important points with the exception of Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington North) who did question the sense of priorities of spending £42 million on a very small number of NHS consultants. The Parliamentary under-secretary who replied to the debate did not even take up the point.

Yours faithfully, B. THALASINGAM, Shotley Bridge General Hospital, Shotley Bridge, Consett, Co Durham, July 9.

the country of full-funded additional student places in electronics under the "ship" programme. We now face the problem of trying to obtain highly qualified personnel in a market where there is already a shortage and where we cannot compete.

The problems which are being stored up as a consequence are likely to have very serious long-term consequences for research and development in this country and need to be addressed urgently. The undoubted success this Government has had in depressing both university staff salaries and expenditure in higher education is leading to grave problems.

Yours faithfully, T. A. DELCHAR, Department of Physics, University of Warwick, Coventry, July 1.

ON THIS DAY

JULY 17 1876

In 1876 an officer of the Chinese consular service, Margary, was murdered by bandits in Yunnan; an attempt was made by a three-man mission to find the murderers; with them was an escort party of more than 300 troops. Margary was at stake when bringing the cables to Yunnan; it was essential that the route be kept free from marauders, for over them a considerable amount of trade between Britain and Burma and Yunnan took place.

THE MISSION TO YUNNAN.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT)

RANGOON, JUNE 9. Messrs. Grosvenor, Baber, and Davenport arrived in Rangoon on Tuesday, the 6th of June. Their escort, Colonel Jebb, had preceded them. The King of Burmah had expressed a desire to give them an interview at Mandalay, but, as an audience would not be granted unless they took off their shoes, the three gentlemen wisely declined to attend. Colonel Duncan has not seen the King since he intimated, that he must keep his shoes on in audience. . . . Although the shoe question has stopped personal communication between the Political Resident and the King, yet His Majesty has shown a very friendly disposition towards the British escort. When they first arrived at Mandalay the King sent out 1,000 fowls and quantities of fruits for the soldiers. No difficulties appear to have been put in the way by the Burmese, and, although the people were shy of making acquaintance with the British, to Manawye, they seem to have come forward to greet the soldiers on their return. Great surprise was expressed that the English should take such trouble to spend so much money over the loss of one Englishman. To the Burmese, who value a man's life at a blood-money of about 800 rupees, this conduct of ours appears most eccentric.

As the troops marched into Manawye, which is nothing but a miserable village, the King's guide, who showed them the ford across the river, pointed out the tree on which Margary's head was placed after his murder. His body had been flung into the river. The escort found that the Chinese Mission had arrived before them, escorted by the Commander-in-Chief of Yunnan. He had a bodyguard of about 100 soldiers, each of whom carried a little flag. The Europeans of the party appear to have applied to the Chinese soldiers, preceded by Chinese soldiers. The Chinese troops always entered the villages and towns they passed through well in front of the Mission, so that there could be no mistake as to the official nature of the escort. But, however, obtained from the Chinese Government. . . . If the primary object of the Mission was to investigate the causes of Margary's murder and to bring his murderers to justice, the Mission can hardly be congratulated on its success. It is said that, on Mr. Grosvenor's arrival at Manawye, an investigation was held by Chinese officials, but all that could be got out of the witnesses was a distinct denial that Margary had ever been to Manawye at all. The officers of the escort laid, however, another story picked up from their Kachyo guide, and they were able to point out the hot spring to which Margary was going when he was murdered and the tree on which his head was placed. Some wretched Kachyos were captured, but a looker-on, who knew something of the language, declared that the interpreters were ignorant, and that the examination was a farce. It was only at the end of the proceedings, and the day before the escort left, that the head of Margary was discovered in the person of an old lady, who had been keeping out of the way during the investigation, but at the same time had applied to the Chinese officials for protection. Fourteen men are in prison at Talifoo, and perhaps they are the actual murderers, but they may be looked upon in the same light as a firing party told off to carry into execution a military sentence.

It is improbable that the investigation has conducted to elucidate evidence as to the real instigators of the murder, although a few of the smaller fry may have been caught in the net. . . .

Yours faithfully, W. ALAN HEATON-WARD, 38 Aspley Road, Clifton, Bristol, July 13.

From Mrs Priscilla Mitchell

Sir, Mrs Buckley's letter (July 8) reminds me of my first visit to Yugoslavia in 1954. I borrowed a phrase book from an old friend, which contained the helpful information, "My father has an airship." This caused considerable delight to some members of the Yugoslav Air Force with whom I happened to be sharing the journey from Sarajevo to Dubrovnic.

Yours faithfully, PRISCILLA MITCHELL, Lake Gardens, Totnes, Devon, July 8.

From Mrs Priscilla Mitchell

Sir, On a visit to Denmark shortly after the last war I was fascinated to come across the following in a booklet of useful phrases for Dances visiting England: "Yorkshire won the county cricket championship last season" with the suggested follow-up: "Yes, but Surrey ran them very close".

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Letters of the law

From Mr W. A. Twemlow

Sir, I note that the latest version of the Insolvency Bill (that ordered by the House of Commons to be printed on June 20, 1985) states on the front page that it is "amended by Standing Committee C" whereas on the title page and the back sheet it is "as amended by Standing Committee E".

At long last the reason for the nuisance which the Bill is in is revealed to us all! Yours truly, W. A. TWEMLOW, 15 Castle Street, Liverpool, July 8.

Little-known phrases

From Mr W. A. Twemlow

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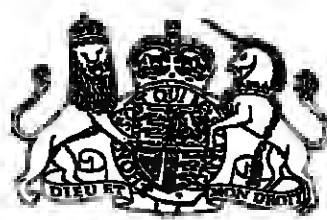
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COURT AND SOCIAL

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BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 16: The Right Reverend John Taylor (formerly Bishop of Winchester) had the honour of being received by the Queen this morning and delivered up to Her Majesty the Badge and Chain of Office upon relinquishing his appointment as Prelate of the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

The Bishop of Winchester (the Right Reverend Colin James) had the honour of being received by the Queen when Her Majesty handed to him the Badge and Chain of Office upon his appointment as Prelate of the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

Mr T. D. O'Leary (British High Commissioner to New Zealand, Governor of the Pitcairn Islands and British High Commissioner to Western Samoa) and Mrs O'Leary had the honour of being received by the Queen.

His Excellency Archbishop Bruno Heim was received in farewell audience by Her Majesty and took leave upon relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Iraq to the Court of St James's.

The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Salts Station in the Royal Train this morning.

His Royal Highness, Trustee of the National Maritime Museum, visited the Colchester Quay Museum and the Tamar Sailing Barge The Shamrock at Colchester House, near Colchester, Cornwall.

Afterwards, the Duke of Edinburgh visited the Naval Base and the Royal Naval Museum, Portsmouth.

His Royal Highness, attended by Captain Ian Gardner, R.M., later travelled to London in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel, Grenadier Guards, accompanied by his wife, the Duchess of Edinburgh, arrived at Middleburgh Station in the Royal Train this morning.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by General Sir David Fraser.

KENSINGTON PALACE
July 16: The Prince and Princess of Wales, attended by Mrs George West and Lieutenant-Commander Peter Elsie, RN, arrived at Middleburgh Station in the Royal Train this morning.

Their Royal Highnesses visited the Royal Naval Museum, Portsmouth.

Forthcoming marriages
Mr J. P. A. Adams and Miss S. E. A. Payne.

The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mr P. L. Adams and the late Mrs P. L. Adams, and Miss S. E. A. Payne, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. W. N. Payne, of Warrington, Surrey.

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Oleg Popov, the Moscow State Circus clown, trying out his juggling act behind a fruit stall in Manchester before the circus started its tour of Britain yesterday (Photograph: Mike Aron).

Luncheon

Baroness Elliot of Harwood

Baroness Elliot of Harwood presided over a luncheon of the ladies' committee of the European Atlantic Group held in the House of Lords yesterday. The guests of honour were Baroness Birk, who spoke on problems of the environment.

Baroness Birk, who spoke on problems of the environment, was accompanied by her husband, Lord Birk, and her daughter, Lady Birk.

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Meetings

The Chelsea Society

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Sale room

Down at heel shoes go for £8,000 at Christie's

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's sold a pair of high heeled shoes yesterday for £8,000, despite the fact that one shoe was worn at the back of the heel. They were made about 1640, reputedly for one Mary Radcliffe, the daughter of a Lancashire knight. They are of royal blue velvet and embroidered with gold and silver thread with raised flowers.

The shoes were sold at Christie's, 136, New Bond Street, London, yesterday. They were made about 1640, reputedly for one Mary Radcliffe, the daughter of a Lancashire knight. They are of royal blue velvet and embroidered with gold and silver thread with raised flowers.

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OBITUARY

HEINRICH BÖLL

Novelist in the humanist tradition

Heinrich Böll, who died yesterday at his home in the Eiffel Mountains aged 67, was a writer in the mainstream of European humanism, a Catholic and a Socialist who in 1972 became the first German to win the Nobel Prize for Literature since Thomas Mann. Encompassing both the disorientation of defeat and the complacency of affluence, Böll's work offers a subtle, compassionate and wholly individual portrait of German society since 1945.

Born in 1917 in Cologne, where he lived and worked for most of his life, Heinrich Böll was the sixth son of a cabinet-maker and wood-carver of British descent. After Gymnasium he was apprenticed to a bookseller in the city before being conscripted and serving through the war, chiefly on the Russian Front. He was wounded four times, and remained a corporal.

When he began writing he faced the huge task of cultural regeneration common to all German artists at the time. No words were safe. Language had been debauched by twelve years of dictatorship and it was one aim of the Gruppe 47 writers, whom he joined in 1950, to rebuild the German language into what Böll himself defined as a new vehicle of "monologue, dialogue and prayer".

German critics compared the plain, laconic speech of the common soldiers Böll's first stories - *Der Zug war pünktlich* (1949), *The Train was on time*; *Wander, kommst du nach Spa* (1950), *So, Traveller, if you come to Spa*; and *Wo warst Du, Adam?* (1951), *Adam, where art thou?* - to that of Hemingway. But plain speech alone could not contain the irrational, the chaotic, the modern. Böll's realism was equalled, if not at times surpassed, by his sharp, poetic eye.

Reminiscence haunted his fiction. Echoing Yeats (he sustained strong affinities with Ireland, translated Behan and Synge, owned a house there for many years, published an Irish journal and wrote with intelligence about the North), he defended memories and beliefs as sacred dreams and, whilst occasionally employing the kind of elaborate allegory whose resonance does not survive translation, came increasingly to evoke what one critic called "the intrinsic strangeness of familiar things": a pale square on a classroom wall where the Führer's portrait used to hang; a thin red line of ink through the name of a boy who has fallen through the third floor of a bombed house, together with the washing machine he had been sent up to save (*The Bread of Those Early Years*, 1955, translated 1977).

Drawing on the prevalent language of the Absurd in the Fifties, he wrote one story about silences lovingly cut and spliced from his own tapes by a desperate radio producer, and another about a critic who



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became so neurotic about undoing books for review that he reviewed the parcels themselves and placed them on the shelves of his library unopened.

The stories are funny, the metaphors speak of a country tipping round a void. A global catastrophe can serve many purposes, wrote Theodor Haecker in a passage quoted at the head of *Wo warst Du, Adam?* in its second English translation (1975).

"One of them is to provide an alibi when God asks: 'And where were you, Adam?' 'I was in the war'."

Böll was by no means the only - nor, after the emergence of Günter Grass in 1959 the most gifted - writer dedicated to piercing the collective amnesia which settled over the Nazi years after the war, but he was unusually successful in showing that public responsibility and personal freedom were not merely compatible with one another, but were inseparable halves of the same thing: individual conscience.

A steady stream of radio plays, stories, novels, lectures and reviews made the point with quiet consistency and mounting anger for nearly thirty years - among them *Billard um halb zehn* (1959), *Billards at half-past nine*, *Ansichten eines Clowns* (1963), *The Clown*, *Entfernung von der Truppe* (1964), *Absent Without Leave* and *Ende einer Dienstfahrt* (1966), *End of a Mission*).

When the intellectual unrest of the late 1960s and the urban terrorism of the 1970s challenged Böll's definition of conscience in the most direct and painful way he was thrust into a position of moral leadership he had never sought but which he filled, so far as could be seen from outside Germany itself, with fierce integrity and noble courage.

The award of the Nobel Prize and the Presidency of International PEN (1971-4) merely placed him more clearly in the centre of the world, and he had the distinction of being savaged by dissident writers, and by *Quick* magazine at home,

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Tax cut priority edges PSBR to the sidelines

Selling state assets can have a wonderful effect on public sector finances. Last month the public sector borrowing requirement was eliminated by virtue of the receipt of £1.1 billion from the second call on British Telecommunications. A further £100 million will help matters in July.

The public sector repaid £60 million in June, to bring the total for the first three months of the financial year to £2.74 billion. Last year the figures were £1.02 billion and £4.6 billion respectively.

Stripping out British Telecommunications second call, and the £200 million received from British Aerospace in May, it is possible to say that there has been an improvement over last year, but not a substantial one. And this is before the effects of a stronger pound and lower oil prices have begun to show through on North Sea revenues. Already, the City sceptics are preparing to peek away at the Treasury's Budget-time forecast of a £7.1 billion PSBR in 1985/86, although it is probably a little too early to be drawing any conclusions about the path of public borrowing over the year.

The Institute of Directors, fearful that the Chancellor will again find himself hamstrung by a borrowing overshoot, chose the day of publication of a "good" PSBR figure to call for it to be given less emphasis as a policy indicator.

According to the Institute's economic adviser, Dr Barry Bracewell-Milnes, an increase in the PSBR is compatible with a tightening of monetary and counter-inflation policy; it does not imply a relaxation. A fall in the PSBR is neither a necessary nor a sufficient condition of a fall in inflation.

A year or so ago, anyone espousing such heresy would have been immediately blackballed from the institute, but the disappointment of tax cut hopes deferred has hit hard.

The Government could even be underborrowed, the institute says, in the sense of having too little debt relative to assets. That commits the fallacy of drawing an oversimplified analogy between company and government accounting. Assets are, after all, worth only what they can be sold for, and most state assets are still not for sale.

The upshot is that the Chancellor should play down the PSBR and embark on a tax-cutting drive on the Reaganomics line according to the institute. The US Budget deficit has not produced any disasters, says Dr Bracewell-Milnes, instead it has produced one of the strongest and longest booms since the war. The reason is that tax cuts rather than extra spending have boosted the deficit, the paper claims.

And by going ahead with tax cuts and letting the PSBR rip, the incentive to control public spending could improve. At present that incentive is missing because deferred tax cuts have taken the strain, Dr Bracewell-Milnes argues. It probably could not do any worse than present attempts to control public spending.

Fleming counts the cost of success

After the heady progress of recent years, Robert Fleming is now having to pedal that bit harder. The fund management and merchant banking group still chalked up a respectable rise in disclosed profits from £15.5 million to £18.5 million in the year to March 31 but the more modest 12½ per cent rise in the dividend is probably a more accurate reflection of the underlying trend.

Fleming is now paying the price of success in the form of sharply higher expenses. Staff numbers are up to cope with the increased volumes and future developments, and in today's City climate it is no great surprise that the salary bill has risen by one-third including a near two-fifths increase in the directors' remuneration. The cost of financing a new office is also beginning to have an impact.

Fleming now ranks as quite a sizeable merchant bank but investment manage-

ment is still very much the core business and Mr Joe Burnett-Stuart, the chairman, concedes that gaps remain. Corporate finance, where Fleming has lacked large-company connections, is an area it intends to push hard.

The United States is also an area earmarked for expansion.

As for Fleming's much-publicized approach to the Big Bang by setting up a market-making operation in 31 electrical stocks, this seems to be yielding useful experience but predictably no easy gains. Making a turn on stocks is one thing, but the costs of running the operation and the disadvantages of being outside the Stock Exchange mean that this activity probably reduced last year's profits by several hundred thousand pounds.

It is also highlighting some of the issues which others will have to address eventually, such as how to get paid for research work. An added irritant for Fleming is that one of the top traders may soon be on the move. And Fleming is testing Chinese walls by making a market in the shares of one of its corporate clients, International Signal.

Still, Fleming is as committed as ever to the experiment and thinking in terms of pharmaceutical stocks as the next step.

Mr Burnett-Stuart is adamant that Fleming's approach to the securities industry will not take it into the capital hungry block trading arena and will not be turning to its shareholders for cash. "Theoretically I think it would be perfectly possible to raise the capital, but I don't envisage it being necessary", he says.

Steel chief fails to impress auditors

Sir Robert Haslam, chairman of British Steel Corporation, talks bravely in this year's annual report about the £140 million operating loss as being the best operating result since 1976-77. He points to the commendable progress which has been made since 1980-81, when BSC lost £660 million after interest charges. He highlights the doubling in productivity which has been achieved.

Such fighting talk, however, has made little impression on BSC's auditors. Once again the report from Coopers & Lybrand reveals that there is still uncertainty about "the validity of the going concern basis upon which the accounts have been drawn up, which assumes that sufficient finance will be forthcoming to meet ongoing requirements."

With the deficit on the profit and loss account now close on £1.4 billion and government capital and long-term debt running at more than 1.5 times the corporation's net assets, it is easy to see why Coopers remains unconvinced about the use of the going concern basis. The auditors also raise doubts about the value of the corporation's tangible fixed assets.

These are stated in the corporation's balance sheet at £1,495 million. Despite accelerated depreciation of £1,545 million since 1979-80, BSC can still not guarantee that the remaining asset values can be recovered out of future earnings.

These are familiar doubts, but Sir Robert can point to little in the future which will ease the uncertainties. He reaffirms that it is still BSC's prime objective to be free of state aid by the end of the year and from there to create a core business which can be privatized ultimately. It is a bold objective but not one which will be easy to achieve.

BSC needs to be earning £200 million a year before interest to avoid new borrowings, which will have to be taken on at market rates following the end of state assistance this December, and real viability will require profits of £300 million a year.

If this is to be achieved, BSC will inevitably need to indulge in further rationalization. Some 100,000 jobs have already been lost in the last five years. There could be more job losses to come, which would only add to the frightening statistic that BSC has three pensioners for every one UK employee.

BSC loss soars to £409m as miners' strike takes toll

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The British Steel Corporation made a loss of £409 million last year - 60 per cent up on 1983 - but excluding the cost of the miners' strike and other exceptional items the state corporation would have made a profit of £40 million.

Sir Robert Haslam, the chairman, said in the BSC annual report yesterday that a clear operating profit had been made in the first three months of this year but he again gave a warning that plant closures were necessary if the BSC was to make sufficient profits to be attractive for privatization.

He said: "We could be reaching a plateau in the rate of profit attainable. Sharp advances in productivity and energy usage are no longer readily available and the current weakness of the Deutschmark against sterling again threatens the improvement in our prices."

"If the corporation is to achieve and then sustain

commercial viability, further changes in our plant configuration cannot be avoided."

Sir Robert did not name plants that could be under threat, but his remarks follow the recent revived controversy surrounding the BSC's three strip mills at Port Talbot and Llanwern in South Wales and Ravensaraig in Scotland, the latter being the most threatened.

Mr Haslam said the Secretary of State and trade unionists are uniting against further steel closures.

The BSC, which is due to be free of state aid by the end of this year under the European Commission agreement, was said to have achieved its best operating result in 1984-85 even after absorbing the £180 million cost of the pits dispute, since 1976.

Exceptional costs last year included in the accounts - a de-capitalization exercise before the ending of state aid - totalled £264 million. This includes the



Sir Robert Haslam: warning on plant closures

£103 million cost of buying out BSC's share of a Canadian iron ore company, plus expenditure of £122 million on redundancy, adjustments to book values and privatization projects.

Sir Robert said the corporation had reached a milestone on the road to real viability. The next objective was to achieve a profit of about £200

Pop goes Chrysalis flotation

By Cliff Feltham

Mr Chris Wright, the 40-year-old millionaire pop entrepreneur, last night admitted the stock market flotation of his music empire had turned into a flop.

"I think we were prepared for it. The market wasn't healthy and these things are either enormous hits or not," he said.

Samuel Montagu, the merchant bank, had issued 4.3 million shares in his Chrysalis group at 200p each, but a mere 340,850 or 5.6 per cent found buyers - the rest have been left with underwriters.

The stockbroker involved was James Capel, which only last week was voted top of the city charts for the sixth year running for its investment expertise.

The offer for sale followed agreement on a merger between the independent Chrysalis record company, created by Mr Wright in the 1960s, and the quoted Management Agency and Music (MAM) group and put a value on the combined business of £52 million.

The merger had a bad start. A long-standing director of MAM took the unusual step of refusing to sign a circular being sent to shareholders outlining the terms. Then it emerged that Spandau Ballet, one of Mr Wright's main bands, was suing Chrysalis for alleged breaches of contract.

Mr Bill Smith, managing director of MAM, said yesterday: "I am very, very disappointed. It has been a long

and complicated flotation and several problems have put a damper on things."

Mr Wright said: "I think many people will still buy the shares when dealings start and I am convinced they will open very strongly. I certainly don't blame our advisers."

Mr Colin Keer, a director of Samuel Montagu, said: "Chrysalis remains a strong company and in due course shareholders will be well pleased with their investment."

When the merger was agreed, one of MAM's principal shareholders, the hotel group Queens Hotel, decided to take shares in the combined business in respect of its 10 per cent stake.

Two seek money broker role

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank, and King & Shaxson, the small discount house, have applied to the Bank of England to become Stock Exchange money brokers in the restructured gilt-edged market.

They are believed to be the only newcomers applying for authorization alongside the six existing firms which have operated as money brokers in the past.

The money brokers' role is to arrange for market-makers to borrow stock from institutions

Sterling rise depresses manufacturing output

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The pound's rise is taking its toll on manufacturing industry. Output in this sector fell by 0.2 per cent in May, after a 1.6 per cent drop in April, according to official figures published yesterday.

After a strong first-quarter performance, output is now below that at the end of last year.

In the latest three months, chemicals and textiles output was broadly unchanged. These are two of the sectors where output had risen strongly and exports had grown when the pound fell. Overall, manufacturing output in the March-May period was only 1.5 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of last year.

There was a more encouraging picture in the index of output of the production industries, which includes energy as well as manufacturing. Output rose by 1 per cent in May, mainly as a result of the recovery from the coal strike.

By May, coal output had recovered to 85 per cent of pre-strike levels and was exerting a downward influence of less than 0.5 per cent on output.

In the latest three months, production industries output rose 2.9 per cent. Excluding the coal strike effects, the rise would have been just 1 per cent.

The latest industrial production figures contain substantial revisions. Output in the first half of last year has been revised by around 0.5 per cent, but the March and April figures this year have been raised downwards by the same amount.

Intasun Leisure is to pay £37 million for the Grosvenor and Charing Cross hotels in London, making it the capital's tenth largest hotel company.

The deal takes the company closer towards the aim of the chairman, Mr Harry Goodman, that within two years it will be earning 30 - 40 per cent of its profits from hotels.

He is paying £65,000 a room for the hotels, around twice the price paid three years ago by the Barclay Brothers, owners of the Howard Hotel, when they bought them from British Rail.

Mr Goodman believes he can get a return of 12 - 13 per cent on his purchase in a full year. Intasun's acquisition of Global from GUS took it into the big league of incoming tour operators, and Mr Goodman believes this should enable him to boost hotel occupancy from the current 75 - 80 per cent. He also sees scope for increased charges.

The Barclays have already spent £8 million on refurbishing parts of the Grosvenor which has 350 rooms near Victoria Station, and has put up prices as a result.

Intasun will fund most of the purchase through mortgage finance, but it has recently raised substantial cash by selling some of its aeroplanes, part of the policy of diversifying into hotels which began with the March purchase of London's Barbican Hotel.

Mr Goodman said yesterday: "We intend spending £100 million on hotels over three years, and we have only spent £48 million so far."

Intasun pays £37m for two hotels

By Patience Wheatcroft

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Capel plans stockbroking chain

By William Kay, City Editor

Following the recent breakup of the links between Britannia Arrow and the provincial stockbroker, Heslaine Moss, another attempt was made yesterday to form a nationwide stockbroking chain.

James Capel & Co, the leading London broking firm, and Postel, the manager of the Post Office and British Telecommunications pension funds, are each taking a 20 per cent stake in Postel & Co, the Glasgow stockbroker.

Mr Peter Quinnen, a partner of Capel, explained: "Parsons had received a number of approaches, and among them

was one from ourselves and one from Postel. They thought that both of us would be attractive, and that together we would be able to provide them with continued independence and the necessary research support."

Mr Clive Gilchrist, a Postel investment manager, said: "We are simply a passive investor in Parsons. We saw it as a way in which we could participate in the financial services sector in a way that would not interfere with our established relationships."

He remarked that Capel, Parsons and Postel believe that this could be built into a "strong regional network", adding that

"we would like to hear from any other provincial firms that are interested in joining us."

Parsons' business is two-thirds with private clients, while Capel is principally an institutional firm. "We think that the private client will have a strong role to play in the future of the stock market", Mr Quinnen said.

Mr Bernard Solomons, of Parsons, said: "We feel that there is a very important role for the regional brokers to play in the future. We are delighted at this deal, which gives us the best of all worlds."

Brokers dig deep, page 17

Cut in British oil output ruled out

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Government yesterday said it cannot influence the world oil market, and consequently the policies of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), by manipulating daily North Sea oil production volumes.

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, the Energy Minister, said reduced oil output would bring very clear losses and no certain benefits.

He told Parliament that Britain should be regarded as a medium-sized oil producer which exports only one million barrels per day. Any reduction in North Sea output to affect world prices would be small and certainly made up for by other non-Opec producers.

Britain is now the world's fourth-largest oil producer behind the Soviet Union, the United States and Mexico, if only because of the current lack of demand for Saudi Arabian oil.

Output from Saudi Arabia, which has the world's largest proven oil reserves and the potential to meet a third of the total world demand, has been severely curtailed by its strict adherence to Opec policies.

Opec members will be asked next week to agree fundamental changes to the output quota system adopted in London in March 1983. It has adhered to this since then despite considerable external pressure from the oil consuming nations.

In Geneva, Opec is expected to leave the overall quota unchanged at 16 million barrels a day, but to define Saudi Arabia's role as "swing producer" more clearly.

Under the London agreement - the overall quota was originally set at 16.5 million bpd, but reduced in October last year - Saudi Arabia has never had a fixed quota, but has been allowed to use its flexible production to meet any shortfalls in production by other member countries.

In theory, Saudi Arabia could produce up to 4.35 million barrels a day while other countries' output was low. However, in practice, most countries have been meeting their quotas and often over-producing, leaving Saudi Arabia with a potential market closer to 2.2 million bpd.

Opec members are now digesting the latest warning from Saudi Arabia that it can no longer bear the brunt of falling world demand.

Discussions in Geneva next week will therefore, seek to accommodate increased Saudi production within the same overall quota of 16 million bpd. This will mean several countries having to cut their quotas for certain types of oil, possibly being compensated by being allowed an increase in their quotas for crude oils which do not compete directly with Saudi output.

IN BRIEF

W German jobs fear

West Germany may find its growth rate insufficient to reduce unemployment in 1985-86, according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Expansion, which this year should be 2.5 per cent, has so far just about halted the drop in jobs of mid-1984, so that the unemployment rate has kept at a little over 8 per cent of the workforce.

To obtain stronger and durable growth coupled with lower unemployment, the OECD recommends easier taxation as a suitable way of producing more available jobs.

Fraser purchase

The House of Fraser has lifted its stake in Debenhams to 10.39 per cent with the purchase of 500,000 shares in the market. Burton Group is seeking Debenhams board backing for an increased offer.

Profits boosted

Reed Executive, the employment agency and drug stores group, has increased pretax profits to £2.2 million for the year to March 30, up from £1.5 million reported in the previous 15 months. Turnover rose from £45.4 million to £51.7 million. A final dividend of 2p makes 3p for the year, against 1.6p last time. Tempus, page 17

La porte Industries has bought Mineral Research and Development Corporation, an American chemical company specialising in the manufacture and distribution of timber treatment chemicals, for \$8.1 million (£5.8 million) in cash.

Dividend up

The Brunning Group, with interests in advertising and marketing, has reported a fall in pretax profits from £452,000 to £377,000 for the year to March 31. Turnover rose from £48.7 million to £56.8 million. A final dividend of 2.8p makes 4.9p for the year against 4.7p last time. Tempus, page 17

Industrial rents should begin rising in real terms this year for the first time since 1978, according to a forecast by Hillier Parker. The estate agent, it predicts that they will rise at an annual rate of 6 per cent between May 1985 and November 1986.

Intex placing

Intex, the Bermuda-based computerized commodity trading system, has completed the placement of shares worth \$5 million (£3.6 million).

Dominion International maintains its relative stake in the company.

Stake lifted

Sir James Goldsmith, who has been battling for eight months to takeover Crown Zellerbach of the US, has raised his stake in the forest products concern from 26.60 to about 35 per cent.

STC network

STC, the electronics group, has combined its networking operations into a single subsidiary, STC Network Systems, under the ICL umbrella.

China's first

China has raised \$HK300 million (£29 million) through a bond issue its first in Hong Kong currency, via International Trust and Investment Corporation.

WALL ST WIRE

Bonds stage recovery

From Maxwell Newton, New York

The bond markets began to recover vigorously yesterday as Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve, began his testimony to Congress. The vigour of the early recovery in bonds suggested that the essence of Mr Volcker's remarks was already known to the financial markets.

By mid-session, the US Treasury bill/bond long bond had risen ½% to 108½%. This rise of nearly a full point put the long bond well on the way back to its recent high.

Federal funds were trading around 7½ per cent, compared with the 8 per cent that shook the markets over recent weeks.

And in another indicator of relief from stress in the fixed income market, the 90-day Treasury bill yield fell to 7.03 per cent.

At the early morning call in Chicago, the September Treasury bond contracts rose ½% to 77½%.

The dollar stopped its recent decline. In mid-session the September futures on non-dollar parties were slightly down. The exception was the yen, where the September contract was up 9 to 42.33.

Bid to restart Gatt talks

By Our Economics Correspondent

The Council of the General Agreement on Tariffs & Trade (Gatt) meets in Geneva today in an attempt to remove obstacles to a new round of trade talks next year.

The council meeting, of ambassador level representatives, will aim to secure agreement for talks between top

national trade officials in September, followed by a new Gatt round in 1986.

However, it is clear that the meeting will face substantial difficulties, mainly over the objection by several countries, including India and Brazil, to the inclusion of services in a new Gatt round.

Lazard Brothers, headed by Sir John Nott, is one of the few merchant banks which has not bought into the Stock Exchange and it does not plan to make markets in either gilts or equities. It said yesterday that this would allow it to provide money broking services "without any inherent conflicts of interest."

Lazard plans to recruit a small team to run its operation which will be capitalised at about £5 million. It also announced the recruitment of three new main board directors yesterday including Mr Nigel Turner from Barclays Merchant Bank who will join the corporate finance side at Lazard. Mr Michael in international mergers and Mr Stuart Webb from Chase Manhattan is becoming chief executive of Lazard Securities.

When they are short and to provide finance for long positions.

These are familiar doubts, but Sir Robert can point to little in the future which will ease the uncertainties. He reaffirms that it is still BSC's prime objective to be free of state aid by the end of the year and from there to create a core business which can be privatized ultimately. It is a bold objective but not one which will be easy to achieve.

BSC needs to be earning £200 million a year before interest to avoid new borrowings, which will have to be taken on at market rates following the end of state assistance this December, and real viability will require profits of £300 million a year.

If this is to be achieved, BSC will inevitably need to indulge in further rationalization. Some 100,000 jobs have already been lost in the last five years. There could be more job losses to come, which would only add to the frightening statistic that BSC has three pensioners for every one UK employee.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS		MAIN PRICE CHANGES	
FT Ind Ord 928.7 (-6.5)		RISES:	
FT-A All Share 596.74 (-2.34)		Kean & Scott 40p +4p	
FT Govt Securities 83.18 (+0.06)		Charles Sharpe 360p +35p	
FT-SE 100 1299.5 (-4.1)		Wolverhampton Laundry 52p +5p	
Dataseq USM 97.49 (+1.29)		Invent Energy 112p +10p	
New York		Federal International 29p +2p	
Dow Jones 1387.47 (+2.01)		Pineapple Dance 41p +3p	
Tokyo		Murray Growth 102p +7p	
Nikkei Dow 12,698.26 (+99.49)		Etam 190p +12p	
Hong Kong:		DJ Security Alarm 48p +3p	
Hang Seng 1632.99 (-7.50)		Bio-Isolates 33p +2p	
Amsterdam 215.1 (-1.6)		Walker & Homer 104p +2p	
Sydney:AO 902.5 (-0.7)			
Frankfurt:			
Commerzbank 1379.0 (-9.0)			
Brussels:			
General 296.45 (-32.84)			
Paris: CAC 218.9 (-1.1)			
Zurich:			
SIXNA General 374.90 (-5.40)			

THE TIMES
Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Your gain or loss
1	BUILDING AND ROADS	
2	Amey (John)	
3	Bellway	
4	Redland	
5	Tarmac	
6	Blue Circle	
7	Lang Hill	
8	Taylor Woodrow	
9	Gibbs & Dandy	
10	Trent	
11	INDUSTRIALS A-D	
12	Boots	
13	Cape Ind	
14	Debenhams	
15	BET Ltd	
16	Coedon	
17	ACB Research	
18	Brook St Bureau	
19	BP	
20	British (DF)	
21	INDUSTRIALS E-Z	
22	UKF	
23	Wood Arthur	
24	Trafalgar House	
25	Stonhill	
26	Sidley	
27	SI	
28	Motormech Ltd	
29	Spear & Jackson	
30	Woolley-Hughes	
31	ELECTRICIANS	
32	MK Elec	
33	Im Signal & Control	
34	Re Telecom Wp P	
35	Comcast	
36	Logica	
37	Thorn Instruments	
38	Via Instruments	
39	Fluoride	
40	Utd Leasing	
41	Times Newspapers Limited Year Daily Total	

Place make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 on Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

UNDATED

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

INDEX-TRACKED

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

ELECTRICIANS

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

INDUSTRIALS E-Z

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

PROPERTY

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

SHIPPING

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

SHOES AND LEATHER

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

TEXTILES

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

TOBACCO

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

OIL

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

INSURANCE

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

LEISURE

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

MINING

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

L-R

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Bright start to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, July 15. Dealings End, July 26. Contango Day, July 29. Settlement Day, Aug 5.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

BUILDING AND ROADS

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
Bellway	100.00
Redland	100.00
Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Boots	100.00
Cape Ind	100.00
Debenhams	100.00
BET Ltd	100.00
Coedon	100.00
ACB Research	100.00
Brook St Bureau	100.00
BP	100.00
British (DF)	100.00

INDUSTRIALS E-Z

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
UKF	100.00
Wood Arthur	100.00
Trafalgar House	100.00
Stonhill	100.00
Sidley	100.00
SI	100.00
Motormech Ltd	100.00
Spear & Jackson	100.00
Woolley-Hughes	100.00

ELECTRICIANS

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
MK Elec	100.00
Im Signal & Control	100.00
Re Telecom Wp P	100.00
Comcast	100.00
Logica	100.00
Thorn Instruments	100.00
Via Instruments	100.00
Fluoride	100.00
Utd Leasing	100.00

FINANCE AND LAND

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
Bellway	100.00
Redland	100.00
Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

FOODS

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
Bellway	100.00
Redland	100.00
Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
Bellway	100.00
Redland	100.00
Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

CINEMAS AND TV

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
Bellway	100.00
Redland	100.00
Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

DRAPERY AND STORES

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
Bellway	100.00
Redland	100.00
Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Boots	100.00
Cape Ind	100.00
Debenhams	100.00
BET Ltd	100.00
Coedon	100.00
ACB Research	100.00
Brook St Bureau	100.00
BP	100.00
British (DF)	100.00

INDUSTRIALS E-Z

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
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Wood Arthur	100.00
Trafalgar House	100.00
Stonhill	100.00
Sidley	100.00
SI	100.00
Motormech Ltd	100.00
Spear & Jackson	100.00
Woolley-Hughes	100.00

PROPERTY

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
Bellway	100.00
Redland	100.00
Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

SHIPPING

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
Bellway	100.00
Redland	100.00
Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

SHOES AND LEATHER

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
Bellway	100.00
Redland	100.00
Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

TEXTILES

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E

BUILDING AND ROADS

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
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Comcast	100.00
Logica	100.00
Thorn Instruments	100.00
Via Instruments	100.00
Fluoride	100.00
Utd Leasing	100.00

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Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

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Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

CINEMAS AND TV

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
Bellway	100.00
Redland	100.00
Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

DRAPERY AND STORES

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Amey (John)	100.00
Bellway	100.00
Redland	100.00
Tarmac	100.00
Blue Circle	100.00
Lang Hill	100.00
Taylor Woodrow	100.00
Gibbs & Dandy	100.00
Trent	100.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Chge Gross Div Price % P/E
Boots	100.00
Cape Ind	100.00
Debenhams	100.00
BET Ltd	100.00
Coedon	100.00
ACB Research	100.00
Brook St Bureau	100.00
BP	100.00
British (DF)	100.00

INDUSTRIALS E-Z

128	Raynor	115	..	5.4	4.7	9.9
129	Raynor	115	-2	3.0	1.5	2.0
130	Razmore	201	..	2.2	10.7	5.4
131	Reardon Inc	45	..	3.6	3.7	13.5
132	Richards (Eng)	26	..	..	..	..
133	Richards (Lux)	45	..	..	..	..
134	Richards (West)	22	..	..	..	..
135	Richardson Ross	271	..	4.3	2.0	22.3
136	Robinson (Thomas)	77	..	..	..	..
137	Rockwell	41	..	..	..	..
138	Rockwell	149	+3	6.9	6.0	3.8
139	Rockwell	149	+3	8.6	6.0	0.7
140	Do A	48	..	..	..	..
141	Rockwell	5	..	..	..	..
142	Rockwell	110	..	0.5	0.2	0.2
143	Russell (A)	90	F	1.8	2.1	38.5

THE TIMES Portfolio			
WEEKLY DIVIDEND £4,000			
aims required for +37 points			
nts should ring 0254-5337			
Security	Price	Change	Volume
Intercontinental	145	+	10
Shell	200	+	10
BP	180	+	10
British Petroleum	160	+	10
British Airways	120	+	10
British Telecom	110	+	10
British Airways	100	+	10
British Airways	90	+	10
British Airways	80	+	10
British Airways	70	+	10
British Airways	60	+	10
British Airways	50	+	10
British Airways	40	+	10
British Airways	30	+	10
British Airways	20	+	10
British Airways	10	+	10
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British Airways	-10	+	10
British Airways	-20	+	10
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British Airways	-40	+	10
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British Airways	-90	+	10
British Airways	-100	+	10
British Airways	-110	+	10
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British Airways	-130	+	10
British Airways	-140	+	10
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British Airways	-850	+	10
British Airways	-860	+	10
British Airways	-870	+	10
British Airways	-880	+	10
British Airways	-890	+	10
British Airways	-900	+	10
British Airways	-910	+	10
British Airways	-920	+	10
British Airways	-930	+	10
British Airways	-940	+	10
British Airways	-950	+	10
British Airways	-960	+	10
British Airways	-970	+	10
British Airways	-980	+	10
British Airways	-990	+	10
British Airways	-1000	+	10

July 17, 1985

THE TIMES

SPECIAL REPORT

THE LAW/1

The case for legal reforms

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent



The courts in England and Wales are struggling to avert a crisis of congestion. Their workload is at record levels; only last month the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham, expressed his concern about the increasing pressure on the criminal justice system and the Crown Court in particular. In the past five years commitments for trial to that court have risen by 50 per cent to 75,000 a year; predictions are that they will top 90,000 by 1988.

Efforts to reduce the backlog of cases have met with a measure of success. But the workload rises inexorably: figures at the end of last year show commitments for the quarter up by 11 per cent over the same period the year before, with the total of trials disposed of up by 5 per cent.

In the civil courts and in particular the High Court, the number of writs issued is rising. Litigation is a growth industry, fostered by a growing awareness of legal rights. In the first three months of this year, writs issued in the Chancery division of the High Court were up in number by 7 per cent over the same period last year to just above 2,000; in the Queen's Bench division by 11 per cent to 55,000.

And in the Court of Appeal, the Master of the Rolls, Sir John Donaldson, who heads its civil division, has expressed disappointment that despite several measures to cut the backlog of cases - two-judge courts, more use of written, rather than oral, presentations by barristers - the productivity of the court has effectively reached a plateau.

In certain kinds of appeal there has even been a worsening of the period of delay before

hearing, so that the average delay has changed from 12 to 14 months to six to 18 months.

The congestion crisis has, however, acted as a catalyst for change. Not only are there government initiatives on several fronts, but debate has been generated within the legal profession generally on ways to reform the system.

First, the Lord Chancellor is aiming to boost "judge power" by increasing the number of circuit judges. Last year he promised a "trawl" of the profession to swell their ranks by 10 per cent and that has been achieved, with a total now of 374 circuit judges. 51 appointed since the beginning of last year. More registrars, masters and stipendiary magistrates have also been appointed and it is likely, he says, that appointments at this rate will continue.

An ambitious court building programme is also under way, with an extra 40 crown courtrooms planned by 1988.

Second, new rules came into force in May requiring the prosecution to disclose a summary of its case to the defence in magistrates' courts, as already happens in the crown court. This affects all cases where the defendant can choose to be tried either by jury or summarily by the magistrates and will, it is hoped, significantly cut the number of elections by defendants for jury trial, often just to discover the case against them.

Many such cases result in a change of plea to guilty, but only after much wasted court time. Early research at Birmingham University's Institute of Judicial Administration has already indicated success in such schemes.

One further reform is planned to reduce delays in the criminal sphere. The Prosecution of Offences Act, which



Two faces of the law: Barristers, left, stay traditional in wig and familiar dress, while solicitors, right, tend to move more with the times

will introduce a state prosecution service in 1986 (removing responsibility for prosecution from the police) also provides for statutory time limits to be set for the period between arrest and trial.

In the past year the number of remand prisoners has risen by 20 per cent so that the average daily number of untried and unsentenced prisoners now stands at more than 8,600 - one in five of the prison population.

The idea will be tested in field trials in three parts of the country later this year, with varying time limits according to the part of the country. Cases which do not come to court in the time set for the period between arrest and committal, or committal and trial, will - when the scheme is fully in operation - be thrown out, as in Scotland.

There is also current debate

on more fundamental changes to the system. The whole question of which offences should be tried by which court is once again in the melting pot, with growing pressure from bodies such as the Magistrates' Association and Prosecuting Solicitors' Society for more offences to be triable only by magistrates.

There have been calls, too, for an end to jury trial in complex fraud cases, many of which run to several months, and a committee appointed by the Lord Chancellor under Lord Roskill is due to report on this topic later in the year.

The most important move for many years on the civil front has been the setting-up by the Lord Chancellor of a review of the whole system of civil justice, under the aegis of officials in his department. Aimed at reducing the delay, complexity and cost

of litigation, it will look at every sphere of the law to find out where the bottlenecks occur and why.

The first stage of the review, just announced, will be undertaken by a team of management consultants and take the form of a fact-finding exercise. They will look first at personal injury cases, said to account for one-third of the time spent by judges in the High Court and for some 800 cases in the county courts and High Court.

Some early soundings taken from the profession at a top-level seminar last year indicate the kind of changes that might occur. Apart from simplification of the procedural rules that govern court proceedings, there is considerable support for judges to take a more active, interventionist role in hearings; controlling the time different stages take; and imposing

penalties on lawyers who are not ready on time.

There is likely to be pressure, too, for more written and fewer oral representations, with greater use of skeleton arguments and handed-down judgments, as pioneered by the present Master of the Rolls. Lay arbitration, conciliation schemes and pre-trial procedures aimed at establishing the important points in dispute before a hearing will all take on a greater role.

Above all there is at last some enthusiasm to embrace the benefits of new technology. Again, taking a lead, the Master of the Rolls has installed a computer in the records department of the Court of Appeal to help with an analysis of what kinds of appeal have a high failure rate, are subject to inordinate delay and so on.

And within the Lord Chancellor's department the first steps are being taken towards computerizing the courts. Experiments are under way in several crown court centres to test the value of computers in running the day-to-day court machinery, while increasing numbers of solicitors' firms are using computers at the simple level of word-processing, although no more than a small percentage of the profession yet makes much use of the legal data bases for researching case precedents and keeping up to date with changes in the law.

It will be some time, inevitably, before any of these reforms begin to have full effect.

Competitive but conservative

BARRISTERS

Few people realize that Britain's most famous barrister is Mrs Margaret Thatcher. For seven years she practised at the Chancery Bar. Her training in the adversarial English legal system, her membership of the Association of Conservative Lawyers, and her early friendships at the Bar have helped her rise to the most powerful political post in the country.

Indeed, Mrs Thatcher is reported as saying while still at Oxford that she should not have read chemistry but that she should have read law. "That's what I need for politics. I shall just have to go and read law." With her single-mindedness that is precisely what she did, and six months after the birth of Mark and Carol the Prime Minister was sitting her Bar finals exams.

In many respects Mrs Thatcher embodies all that is best about the English Bar. According to the pamphlet *A Career At The Bar*, the profession is "for the individualist. It is highly competitive; it calls for hard work, strength of character and a strong constitution. It is a career which depends upon individual enterprise and skill" - words which might have been written about the Prime Minister herself and which lie at the heart of her own political thinking.

But while she epitomizes the very best traditions of the Bar - the dedication, commitment and diligence which characterize the good barrister - she also demonstrates the innate conservatism which permeates the Bar and sets it apart.

Through its customs and practices it has remained isolated and cocooned against the winds of change that have transformed many of Britain's less venerable institutions. At one and the same time its cloistered and collegiate life - the eating of dinners by pupils and the club-like atmosphere of the Inns of Court - are both a strength and a weakness.

While they foster an esprit de corps which encourages competition, hard work and high standards, they do at the same time encourage an elitism and arrogance which are noticeably

lacking in the more rough and tumble atmosphere of teaching and the medical professions.

And that aloofness is reinforced by the strange and archaic habit of barristers having to dress up in period costume - wigs and gowns - before appearing in front of a judge. It is these marks of status (interestingly the judges in the highest court in the land, the House of Lords, do not wear wigs and robes) which leave the most vivid impression on the public and to some extent perpetuate the mystical processes of the law.

But leaving aside the "faintly ridiculous" rules which lay down what barristers must wear in court the Bar, through its Code of Conduct, intrudes into the private lives of barristers far more than any other profession.

The only part-time commercial activities that a struggling young barrister can undertake are as "director of a company, chairman or member of a cooperative society, name at Lloyd's, or landlord of rented accommodation." These unrealistic restrictions on barristers' out-of-hours activities and the "squirearchical nature of these permitted pastimes tend to confirm the Bar as a privileged upper-middle class profession hidden away from the hustle and bustle of Fleet Street and immunized from the harsh

The Bar has no direct access to the public

economic realities of everyday life.

Indeed, the Bar has been remarkably slow in moving with the times and has lagged well behind solicitors in introducing time costing, word processors or new technology into the book-lined sets of chambers which surround the leafy gardens of the Temple and Lincoln's Inn.

In addition to the distinguishing features of the wig and gown, the Bar is further separated and cocooned from the outside world by two additional factors. First, the Code of Conduct of the Bar lays down the rule that a barrister "may not appear in court, or discuss a case with his client unless the instructing solicitor

Continued on following page

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Competitive, conservative barristers

From previous page

or his representative is present". This means that the Bar does not have direct access to the general public and a solicitor often has to act as an unnecessary and expensive go-between relaying every message from the client to the barrister.

Second, it is regarded as beneath the dignity of barristers to negotiate their own fees so that the somewhat squalid subject of money is left to the clerk of the chambers. But most clerks, in spite of criticisms in the Ormrod Report and the Report of the Royal Commission on Legal Services, are still paid on a commission basis and have a vested interest in seeking the maximum amount possible from the instructing solicitor.

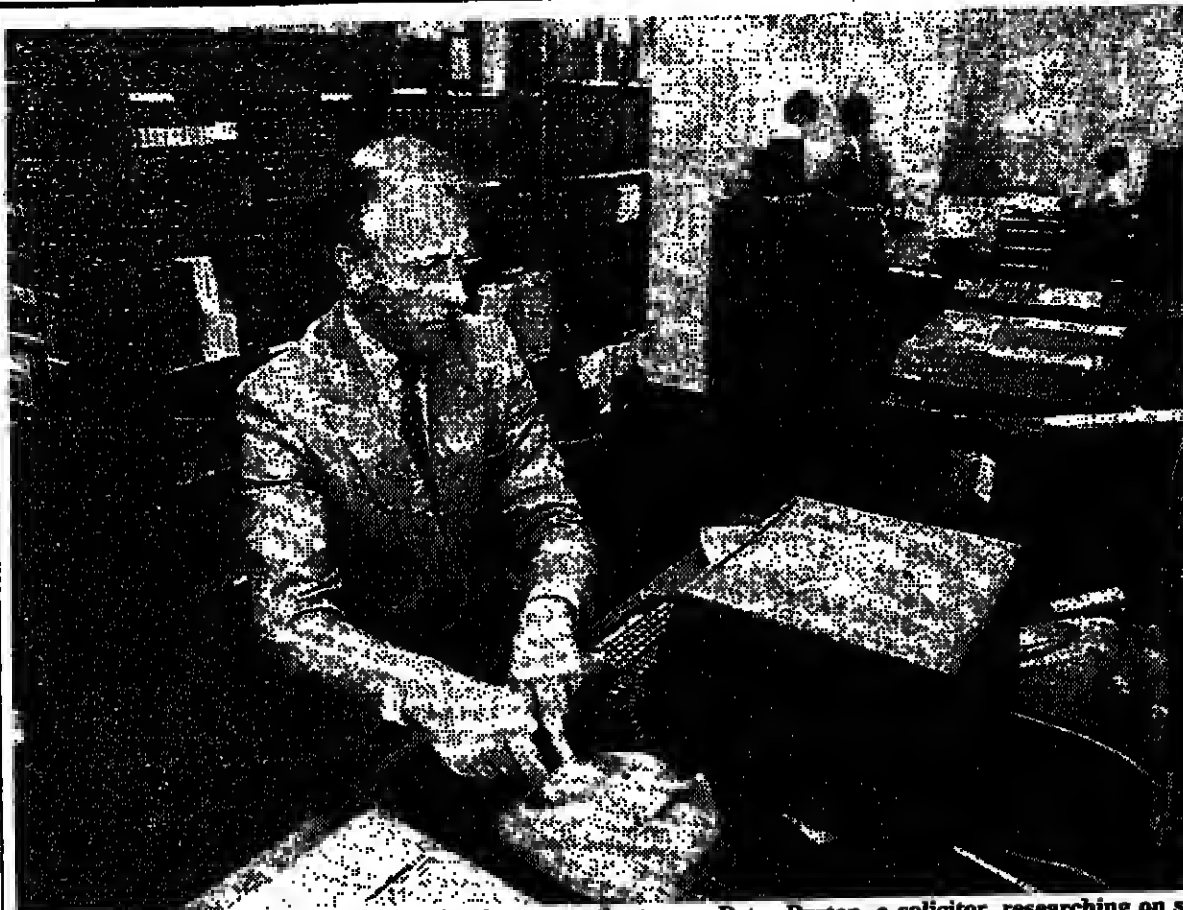
Flexibility needed

The end result is that while the vast bulk of barristers are stuck with set fees laid down by the Legal Aid guidelines, the specialist Bar is in a position to demand sums which are controlled in no other way than by market forces and bear little or no relation whatever to the time which may actually be spent on a matter.

In spite of the huge difference between the six-figure salaries of the top commercial silks and the little or nothing that pupil barristers receive and the accommodation problems that the Inns of Court are currently experiencing, the Bar of England and Wales remains one of England's finest and most professional institutions.

If it is to remain in high esteem it must, however, become more flexible in its rules and regulations, more precise in working out barristers' fees and simply more conscious of the cost of its own practices to the lay client. That way, British justice will continue to be envied around the world.

Alastair Brett



Tapping in among the tomes: Peter Purton, a solicitor, researching on screen and, right, traditional method of information transfer in The Temple.



The shake-up for survival



The solicitors' branch of the legal profession is facing some of the most radical changes in its history. In the past two years it has scarcely been out of the public spotlight, the focus of criticism and debate to an extent unprecedented for any profession.

The solicitors have found themselves under attack on two main fronts: first, over the sacred cow of the so-called conveyancing monopoly and, second, over the way their professional body, the Law Society, handles the public's complaints about lawyers.

Both are crucial to the profession's future. The former is fundamental to solicitors' work, comprising an estimated 50 per cent of total income, while the latter raises questions about how far self-regulating professions should be allowed to be just that.

After a succession of battles on both fronts, critics are now taking stock and wondering to what extent changes will prove to be far-reaching. The success of Austin Mitchell's private member's Bill to allow non-solicitors to undertake house conveyancing forced the Government to promise, and indeed to bring in, legislation to end the solicitors' monopoly. Licensed conveyancers, subject to stringent tests of competence and under the aegis

of a supervisory council, are now to be allowed to do the work.

But they are likely to be small in number. The real threat to the profession, the extension of conveyancing to the big lending institutions of banks and building societies, seems to have been skillfully averted.

The Lord Chancellor is sympathetic to much of the society's argument. In turn he fought a tough cabinet battle and the result, announced recently, is that the Government is not satisfied that the big lending institutions can offer a combined package of mortgage and conveyancing services without risking an unacceptable conflict of interest. The interests of lending institutions, the Lord Chancellor said, were not the same as those of borrowers.

The consumer lobby does not agree. With somewhat renewed fervour it has therefore turned to that other aspect of the solicitors' profession which has created much discontent: the complaints procedure.

Concern came to a head in 1983 when a south Wales businessman was forced to bring a High Court action to have his solicitor, a former Law Society council member, struck off for gross overcharging. The Law Society had turned a deaf ear to his complaints.

In the aftermath of the furore that erupted, the Law Society commissioned a top firm of

management consultants, Coopers and Lybrand, to undertake a major review of this and all other aspects of the society's machinery.

The first part of its report, just completed, says there is a case for removing the handling of complaints from the Law Society and placing it with a new body.

The widely leaked report has already run into controversy. The delay in its publication meant MPs were denied the chance of discussing the whole question when debating the proposed Administration of Justice Bill, now going through Parliament.

That will give tougher powers

SOLICITORS

to the Law Society to deal with shoddy work by solicitors, but stops far short of the Coopers and Lybrand proposal.

Though MPs are now likely, after all, to get the opportunity to debate the report, the parliamentary timetable effectively prevents any chance of early legislation to establish a new complaints body.

There is a groundswell of support for a withdrawal by the Government of its current proposals for less radical reforms to the complaints machinery so that the whole issue

can be re-aided when legislation is a real possibility.

Whether or not a new complaints machinery emerges, the widespread scrutiny of the profession has had beneficial spin-offs in other ways.

It has relaxed its rules prohibiting advertising and is now consulting its members on other questions such as inter-professional partnerships, more freedom to attract business and property-selling ventures jointly owned with other professions.

Already solicitors are moving into property selling like their counterparts in Scotland, and this year the first two solicitors' property centres in England opened in Wrexham and Crawley.

Both offer a "one-stop" service to the customer, with the selling of property and legal services undertaken by the solicitor-member firms for a flat rate commission of 1.5 per cent of the sale price.

The profession's critics may think they are losing the battles in Parliament. But the need to fight those battles at all has forced a shake-up of the profession which will probably guarantee its survival and, more important, a far better service to the public.

FG

It is a source of continuing amazement to foreign observers that more than 96 per cent of criminal justice in England and Wales is administered by a body of volunteer amateurs with little knowledge of the law and hardly any training for the job they have to do.

It is no less a subject of astonishment that the system seems to work reasonably well, with even its critics nowadays calling for improvements, no longer for the wholesale abolition of Justices of the Peace and their replacement by professionals.

Most of the important questions marks about - now numbering more than 27,000 - concern their selection and appointment rather than their conduct or competence. One of the unexpected side effects of the economic recession has been to reflect as far as possible the community which they serve, and be genuinely regarded as the people's representative in the machinery of justice.

Until comparatively recently magistrates were overwhelmingly male, middle-aged or older, middle-class or higher, comfortably off, conservative (small and big "c") and white. The past two decades have seen positive efforts, pushed strongly by successive Lord Chancellors, to attract more

MAGISTRATES

Amateur but it works

women, more wage-earners and younger candidates. Two of the three aims have been reasonably successfully met. Women now make up more than 40 per cent of the magistracy, and a JP is now far more likely to be appointed in his thirties or forties.

The involvement of non-middle-class, ordinary wage-earners has proved more difficult. To some extent, the fault lies with the initial selection process, under which it is left to area advisory committees to find suitable recruits to suggest to the Lord Chancellor.

Their largely middle-class, conservative, "local worthy" membership militates against their knowing promising candidates from elsewhere, other than through formal channels with trade unions and other bodies.

The new dimension is that wage-earners are becoming

more and more resistant to being recruited, and a worrying number of magistrates already on the bench are resigning.

Being a JP requires sitting in court for at least 20 days a year, and even though employers are obliged to give magistrates time off to carry out their duties, there is a widespread belief that they resent doing so, especially when times are hard.

Workers are afraid that becoming a JP will jeopardize their promotion prospects and even make them more liable to be made redundant if their factory or company has to lay off staff.

The significant under-representation of black and Asian magistrates on the bench raises additional issues. A report published by the civil liberties research body, the Cobden Trust, alleged in March that there was evidence of racial discrimination in the way candidates for the bench were selected by the advisory committees.

While rejecting the claim of racial bias the Magistrates' Association and the Lord Chancellor's department concede their concern about the lack of sufficient justices from the ethnic minorities, especially in areas with large black or Asian populations.

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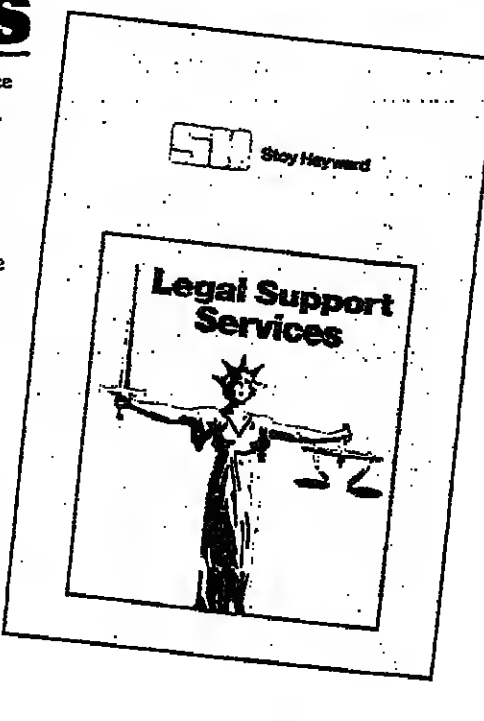
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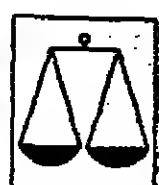
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SPECIAL REPORT

THE LAW/3

Muddled justice for the children



In England and Wales each year 170,000 families embark on the legal processes of divorce, which also involves 220,000 children under 18, and claims for maintenance before magistrates, paternity and adoption cases. Perhaps most important of all is what we call "care proceedings" in which the court is asked, sometimes as a temporary but often as a permanent measure, to remove a child from the care of its natural parents and commit it to the care of the local authority.

CHILD CARE LAW

In recent years Parliament has passed a lot of child legislation but does not appear to have paid enough attention to the practicalities. So provisions enacted as long ago as 1975 are only now being brought into practical effect - indeed sections of the Children Act 1975 were repealed before they were even brought into effect.

The law relating to children has thus become muddled and now overwhelmingly needs codification in one statute.

As always, of course, the judges, the lawyers and the other professionals involved have combined to mitigate the consequences of this statutory muddle. While under the existing procedures most cases produce results which are the best that the particular circumstances permit, the procedural restrictions are such that justice is not always clearly seen to be done.

This element of justice is of vital importance. The criminal, protected by the full panoply of the English process, including appeal to the Court of Appeal, can look forward to remission of sentence, parole and release on licence.

Parents, faced in care proceedings with permanent loss of their child, albeit often on the basis of their own ill-treatment, have rights of appeal and representation that are less than adequate.

Except in rare cases, the first hearings are in magistrates' courts. The right of appeal from the magistrates lies to the Crown Court normally, where the judge may have limited experience in such cases and where, almost uniquely in a child case, the witnesses give evidence in open court.

If the magistrates appoint a guardian *ad litem* to represent the child, then the parents have no separate right of appeal. The problem is aggravated because Crown Court proceedings tend to be conducted as a criminal trial with an inappropriate insistence on adherence to the strict rules of evidence.

These are just some of the defects in our present arrangements for child cases. The Government has set up a study group whose report is expected this summer.

The problems having existed for so many years, it is surprising that such an inquiry was not established earlier.

Broadly stated, the policy of successive governments has been that once magistrates have made a care order, questions about a child's future are best dealt with by an administrative rather than judicial process. The financial implications of



Legal lore: A clerk taking books to a high court case; woman barrister at Lincoln's Inn; chambers in The Temple

permitting a wider access to the courts are, of course, considerable.

This policy was highlighted recently in a case which went to the House of Lords. The parents of a child in care wished her to be adopted. Grandparents sought to oppose this because they felt it to be their right, and indeed their duty, to raise her as part of her wider natural family rather than see her totally removed from that family and become for all purposes part of an adoptive family. They made the child a Ward of Court.

For generations, English lawyers have taken pride in the enormous range of the powers of the court over children as *parens patriae*.

However, the House of Lords felt driven by the statute to hold that these grandparents had no right of access to the court. Parliament had decreed that (save only in cases where the local authority could be shown to have failed to give adequate consideration to the best interests of the child) such matters are to be determined by the local authority.

The proper and only remedy was for the grandparents to make their representations to the local council. Those who are concerned with justice may question whether such a system is acceptable.

CUSTODY

The present arrangements for resolving issues between parents, whether in divorce or

wardship or guardianship proceedings, are generally regarded as working satisfactorily. The system can work extremely swiftly, priority is given to such cases and the existing powers of the court are wide enough.

COURT STRUCTURE

Once again there is debate about the need for family courts. It is plain that expenditure of public money on new buildings and new bureaucracies is unlikely to be regarded as having high priority in competition with other deserving needs.

Accordingly, when reduced to practicalities the current proposals amount to no more than reshuffling and relabelling what is available.

Whatever the system the important objective must be to achieve an appropriate matching of the particular case with the most appropriate tribunal. Recent reforms are aimed at achieving an improved system for allocating cases between registrars and county court and high court judges.

Increased flexibility in allocating cases to and away from magistrates would go some way to removing problems present in their courts without the upheaval and delay that would result from a new court structure.

KIDNAPPING

Courts in all countries set their face against unilateral action in

relation to children. There have been three welcome developments recently.

First, the House of Lords has held that in certain circumstances a parent can be guilty of the common law offence of kidnapping his or her own child. Second, the law has been further advanced with the Child Abduction Act 1984.

Third, the United Kingdom has now taken steps to implement the 1980 Hague Convention on International Child Abduction and the 1980 European Convention on Recognition and Enforcement of Custody Decisions, so that there will now be improved arrangements for the recovery of children in such cases.

PROPERTY AND FINANCE

After the radical changes by the reforming legislation of 1969 and 1970, judges and practitioners have established sound working principles to deal with the problems of housing and allocation of capital and income after divorce. The original and seemingly binding dogma of "the one-third rule" is now virtually no more than part of the history of our matrimonial courts.

In all but those cases where the wife contributed financially to the family capital the emphasis is on making a fair assessment of her need and those of the children living with her - and then matching those needs against the husband's ability to meet them.

In some cases the need to accommodate children may lead to the wife having more than half the available capital; in other cases problems of liquidity may lead to a different result.

DIVORCE

For nearly 50 years we have had consensual divorce. In the sense that parties almost always acquiesce in the divorce petition being undefended. However, unless the parties agree to, and are able to, await two years' separation, it is still necessary to establish adultery or unreasonable conduct, although Parliament has achieved a cosmetic improvement by abandoning the concept of the matrimonial offence in favour of irretrievable breakdown to be evidenced by those same facts.

It is surely time to reconsider the basis for divorce.

JUDGES AND PRACTITIONERS

Whatever the law and whatever the structure of the system, the successful outcome of the particular case depends on the quality of the particular tribunal.

Family cases have to be resolved by a sophisticated exercise of judicial discretion rather than by a mere application of legal principle to proven facts. So it is of the utmost importance that family cases are argued out and judged by men and women of experience and high calibre.

It is equally important to the clients that their lawyers have wisdom, practical sense and technical expertise. Rightly, there is increasing emphasis on conciliation.

The law, the courts and the lawyers must aim to contain the necessarily emotive issues in family law within as narrow confines as can be achieved.

Though conciliation is already and will always be the preferred method of resolving family disputes, it must be realized that such a procedure can only succeed if enough of the relevant facts are agreed. The judicial process remains necessary where there are material disputes.

Robert Johnson, QC
The author is Chairman of the Family Law Bar Association

JUDGES

Training for the Bench

"Who is Bruce Springsteen?" a High Court judge asked the other day, and provoked a barrage of amused publicity and light-hearted criticism.

There was also, though, a slightly more serious implication to the incident. Judges have been trying for years to shrug off their reputation for being remote old fogies out of touch with the real world, and Mr Justice Harman's unfortunate remark went some way towards reviving their unwelcome image.

It was all a little unfair. While the top judges are still predominantly public school and Oxbridge, from a comfortable professional middle-class background and conservative by nature, they are not so old or silly or right-wing as they are often depicted.

The increase in the number of full-time judges, now nearly 500, required to handle the ever-growing volume of crime and litigation had widened considerably the social, political, professional and gender pool from which they are chosen.

There are now 31 circuit

judges, of the 373, who have been solicitors rather than barristers, although they are still prohibited from being promoted to the High Court bench. And though there has not yet been a woman judge on the Court of Appeal - one is expected to be appointed soon - the proportion of women in judicial positions at lower levels is gradually growing.

The most important trend affecting the judiciary, however, is the attempt by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham, to make it more professional. Scarcely a decade ago the judges' lack of any training was praised as being an essential and desirable difference between English judges and their counterparts in Europe.

A Judicial Studies Board was set up in 1979 to provide

recorders, who are part-time judges in the crown courts, and circuit judges with at least a modicum of "training".

The ensuing three-day or three-and-a-half-day courses, concentrating on criminal trials and especially sentencing policy, were minimal, but at least a start.

All barristers invited to become part-time recorders or assistant recorders now have to go through this training. "By the time a judge qualifies for permanent and pensionable appointment he ought to be thoroughly run in, properly trained and sufficiently experienced to try cases regularly," the Lord Chancellor said recently.

Lord Hailsham went even further. He intends that eventually all High Court judges, too, at present often appointed straight in the bench, would have to undergo training and part-time job experience.

He has also announced that the Judicial Studies Board's role is to be expanded to give training in judges destined to sit on civil and family cases, not merely criminal trials.

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Americans on tour

The American Bar Association is holding its annual conference in London this year in furtherance of its eighth rule "to advance the rule of law in the world by improving co-operation and communication between lawyers around the world".

Nearly 10,000 American lawyers are in London for a week which includes 30 plenary sessions and 130 special interest sessions, with 600 speakers and panelists. There are debates on international terrorism, sessions on drug abuse, the role of advertising by lawyers, nuclear arms control, and whether Britain needs a Bill of Rights.

After the London conference there are three-day sessions in Edinburgh and Dublin.

No effort has been spared to make the Americans and their families welcome. About 12,500 hotel rooms have been booked in 127 hotels in London, along with theatre tickets and reservations at the best restaurants.

There are garden parties on three successive nights in each of the four Inns of Court. The opening ceremony in Westminster Hall on Monday was attended by Lord Hailsham, the Lord Chancellor.

Who gets a discount in court?



Germans insure against the bank-breaking cost of going to law, and the American system of contingent fees - a cut for the lawyer if he wins the case, but nothing if he loses - takes the worry out of suing US-style. In Britain, where legal expenses insurance has failed to catch on and where lawyers' professional bodies outlaw contingent fees, legal aid is the ordinary citizen's key to the courthouse door.

Britain's legal aid scheme is one of the world's most comprehensive, with well over half the population qualifying for state aid towards legal costs. Last year more than 200,000 people brought or defended court proceedings in England and Wales with the backing of legal aid, and nearly a million received free or cut-rate help with legal problems under the legal advice and assistance ("green form") scheme.

But the high cost of the law and the arbitrary legal aid means test leaves many would-be litigants in a middle-income trap, too well-off for state aid but too poor to finance a substantial court case from their

own pockets. An accident victim with £5,155 a year disposable family income (spendable income left after deductions for tax, national insurance, pension contributions, mortgage or rent, rates, employment expenses, and allowances for dependants) will get legal aid to sue for compensation, while his neighbour, with £3,156, may have to let his rights go by default.

The means test also discriminates against elderly people who rely on a nest egg for part of their income. Any savings over £3,000 - up to the estimated

700 claims pending over arthritis drug

cost of the case - must be handed over in advance as a condition of receiving legal aid. For the three or four years it often takes a personal injury case to finish, the litigant is deprived of the interest on his savings, and runs the risk of losing his money if he loses the case.

The system, designed to deal with one-off cases, is coming under strain from the growing number of group cases - for instance, the 700 claims pend-

ing over the anti-arthritis drug Opren and the 300-plus whooping cough vaccine cases. "The legal aid authorities do their very best to assist these cases, but the rules are clearly defined with individual cases in mind," says Roger Pannone, who with his partner Michael Napier has launched Pannone Napier, Britain's first international "disaster law" practice under the umbrella of the partners' existing firms, in Manchester and Sheffield.

Solicitors for the Opren claimants estimate that as many as one in three are either barred by the means test or loath to risk the sizable contributions demanded as the price of a legal aid certificate.

Changes in the system to make the means test less arbitrary and to remove the discrimination against low-income litigants with savings were recommended earlier this year by the Lord Chancellor's Legal Aid Advisory Committee. But while divorce and crime continue to take such a heavy toll on the legal aid fund - in 1983-84 divorce and family disputes ate up £45 million of the £60 million spent on legal aid for civil cases, and the criminal legal aid bill totalled

£58 million - the chances of widening the net seem slim.

A levelling-off in the divorce rate, moves towards more conciliation in divorce disputes, and changes in procedure likely to follow the publication of the Matrimonial Causes Procedure Committee's report at the end of this month hold out hope of cutting the cost of divorce battles.

A change in the rules to mitigate one of the most obvious legal aid injustices is likely soon, following judges' criticism in a series of recent divorce cases of the operation of the legal aid rule which allows the fund to recoup legal costs from a legally aided litigant's winnings.

In accident cases and other civil cases, the loser normally pays most of the winner's costs, so the winning litigant keeps the bulk of his compensation. But in divorce cases the costs, unless paid by legal aid, have to be met from the family's resources.

Where a legally aided spouse wins the family home, payment of the costs can be postponed till the house is sold. But if a wife or husband ends up with a lump sum instead, the legal bills will have to be settled straight-



Quick justice: A steady pace through Lincoln's Inn, wig and brief ready to hand

away, even if the result is to leave her without enough to buy a new home.

The rules allow her to keep the first £2,500 of any lump sum she wins, and that was precisely what one divorced wife was left with recently after agreeing to accept £15,000 for her share of the family home. The rest went towards the legal

bill she ran up over her divorce - a total of £22,000.

Under the proposed new rules, where the money is earmarked for a new home, repayment of the legal costs may be postponed. In the meantime, though, interest will have to be paid on the amount outstanding.

Legal Aid in England and

Wales is administered by the Law Society, the solicitors' professional body.

Under serious threat from government cost-cutting policies are the 55 law centres, almost all inner-city-based and staffed by salaried lawyers.

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LONDON PARIS HONG KONG

Questions to answer over Britain's crowded prisons

A few weeks ago the prison population of England and Wales broke the 48,000 barrier, and no one is quite sure why. The speed at which the figure is moving inexorably towards the psychologically important 50,000 mark is surprising even the gloomiest penal forecaster. It also threatens the efficacy of the government's prison building programme, which is based on a somewhat slower increase.

The consequences of the upsurge are, predictably, appalling over-crowding, disgusting living conditions and the renewed fear of violence and riot within prison walls. It is not just the prisoners who suffer; the conditions are as much a problem for prison officers trying to run a humane institution in inhumane circumstances.

The reasons behind the growth of incarceration are more difficult to pinpoint. Part of it is the result of an increase in remand prisoners awaiting trial, despite steps taken to reduce delays and speed the machinery of justice. Crime is rising so it is to be expected that there would be more potential prisoners. But that does not account for the speed of the growth, out of proportion to the crime rate, and begs other

questions, such as the police's low clear-up rate.

The paradox remains, that though England and Wales have the widest range of alternatives to prison of any European country, the imprisonment rate is very near the top of the European league, and there are indications that the courts are becoming even more punitive in their sentencing.

There is much political, judicial and public unity on the need to impose long terms of imprisonment on dangerous and violent offenders, such as armed robbers or killers of policemen, on those found guilty of serious crimes against children or nasty rapes, and on drug traffickers. Those statements about such criminals by Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, and Lord Britton, the Home Secretary, are widely supported.

But violent offenders of all

kinds make up only a small proportion of offenders sent to prison. Violence against the person, including muggings, robberies, assaults and sexual offences, accounts for only five per cent of recorded crime; and those sentenced for such crimes make up only a third of prisoners.

The remaining two-thirds are non-violent offenders, the vast majority sentenced for some form of theft or for burglary. It is about these prisoners that the debate over imprisonment is focused.

The coze-enthusiastic campaign of a few years ago, joined by the Home Secretary, the Lord Chief Justice and the Lord Chancellor, to reduce the length of sentences at the lower end of the scale appears to have disintegrated. The statistics suggest that the call for short sentences, especially for non-violent first-timers (on the

argument that the effect of the "clang of the prison gates" wears off if the prisoner stays too long) was only marginally heeded by the junior judiciary and the magistracy.

A tough new law-and-order climate has settled over the courts. Options to prison such as community service (which costs the taxpayer £10 a week per offender, as against more than £200 to keep him or her in jail) are being under used, and often applied not as the original aim envisaged, as alternatives to non-custodial measures.

At the younger end of the sentencing spectrum, magistrates are putting more juvenile delinquents into some form of custody (detention centre or youth custody) than ever before, despite overwhelming evidence that locking them up does nothing to deter them from going back to crime.

The apparent trend towards more custodial sentencing is not entirely the fault of the courts. It has long been a feature of the penal scene that custodial institutions absorb the bulk of government money, leaving little for other imaginative options to be tried.

MB

These appointments are open to well qualified Solicitors whose training and experience has been gained with London or large Provincial firms. If you have carefully considered your existing career position and have decided that in order to broaden your practical experience and enhance your prospects of advancement to Partnership, you should, at least, investigate the alternatives which may now be available to you. If you do require some assistance in thinking through the development of your legal career, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Careers

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The salaries and benefits attached to these appointments are for discussion with the individual firms but it is unlikely, in our experience, that any interested solicitor would be disappointed with the probable financial rewards. If you would like further information about these particular openings please telephone, in confidence, either Cyril Batchelor OBE or Denis Reed on 01-583 4847/4929 or, if you prefer, send a brief personal and career résumé to The Room Twelve Partnership, Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, London EC4Y 0HP.

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CYCLING

Hinault fighting bravely to retain balance of power

From John Wilcockson, Luz-Ardiden

The Tour de France demands of the winner the ability to accept pain as easily as glory. To hang on to his yellow jersey on the cloud-covered Ardenne plateau yesterday, Bernard Hinault needed every ounce of his ability and courage. His crisis came at the end of the 130-mile seventeenth stage, just as he started to climb the last of three Pyrenean peaks, each one steeper than the one before.

Already, Hinault had allowed his American colleague, Greg LeMond, to move forward on the second climb, the Col du Tourmalet, to control an attack by Stephen Roche, Pedro Delgado and Fabio Parra. Now, with the prospect of eight more miles of difficult ascent, Hinault was struggling to hold the pace of his Swiss colleague, Niki Rüttimann, who was leading a small group.

The race leader did not respond when the mountain king, Luis Herrera, set off in search of Delgado, who was alone, almost three minutes ahead. That was not too great a problem because Herrera had an overnight deficit of more than 12 minutes. But midway up the winding climb, which included a short section of one-in-eight gradient, the proud Frenchman also had to say goodbye to closer challengers, following an acceleration by Robert Millar.

We were reminded of an ageing dictator clinging to power on the strength of his reputation. As Sean Kelly, Phil Anderson, Millar and the rest disappeared into the mist, Hinault called upon all his tenacity to keep his wheel close behind the rear wheel of Rüttimann.

In those closing four miles, Hinault lost 73 seconds to the remarkable Kelly, who outsped LeMond for fourth place.

Overall, Hinault now leads LeMond by 2min 25sec, with Roche third, at 5:03, and Kelly fourth, at 6:19.

Delgado, the winner of the Tour of Spain, held off Herrera, the Colombian climber, by 25sec to earn a well-earned stage win. Delgado's Spanish team colleague, Rute-Cabestany, provided a bridge to victory by breaking clear before the Aspin Pass, 50 miles from the finish. He gained four minutes by the start of the Tourmalet, and was joined by Delgado just beyond the 7,000ft summit.

Today, Hinault will again have to show a brave face on two separate stages, the first finishing on top of the Aubisque Pass, the other recrossing the mountain before the finish in Pau.

SEVENTEENTH STAGE (Toulouse to Luz-Ardiden, 130 miles): 1, P. Delgado (Col), 57min 25sec; 2, L. Herrera (Col), at 58min 30sec; 3, F. Parra (Col), at 1h 2m; 4, S. Kelly (Ire), at 2h 52s; 5, G. LeMond (US), at 2h 52s; 6, J. Rodriguez (Sp), at 2h 54s; 7, C. Rute-Cabestany (Sp), at 2h 55s; 8, J. Schepers (Bel), 10, P. Winnen (Neth), 11, J. Zemanek (Neth), 12, S. Roche (Ire), 13, R. Millar (GB), all same time; 14, N. Rüttimann (Swi), at 3h 58s; 15, T. Clavert (Ire), at 3h 58s; 16, B. Hinault (Fr), at 4h 05s.

OVERALL: 1, Hinault, 91h 26m 22s; 2, LeMond, at 2h 25s; 3, Roche, at 5:03; 4, Kelly, at 6:19; 5, Delgado, at 6:24; 6, Herrera, at 6:28; 7, Parra, at 6:30; 8, E. Chozas (Sp), at 6:31; 9, Zemanek, at 6:32; 10, Rüttimann, at 6:33; 11, Millar, at 6:34; 12, N. Rüttimann (Swi), at 6:35; 13, Winnen, at 6:36.

● Italy's Maria Canins won the second leg of the second stage of the women's Tour de France yesterday and maintained her overall lead (AP reports).

SECOND STAGE (Second leg, Saline-Marie-de-Campan to Luz-Ardiden, 32 miles): 1, M. Canins (It), 1h 13m 30s; 2, L. Longo (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 3, Wang Li (Chn), at 1h 13m 30s; 4, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 5, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 6, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 7, L. Longo (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 8, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 9, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 10, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 11, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 12, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 13, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 14, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 15, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 16, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 17, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 18, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 19, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 20, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 21, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 22, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 23, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 24, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 25, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 26, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 27, J. Broca (Fr), at 1h 13m 30s; 28, J. 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Puget can show appreciation of shorter trip at Yarmouth

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Walter Swinburn has a busy time ahead of him today. First he will be at Great Yarmouth principally to partner the Aga Khan's promising newcomer Sidjistan, for Michael Stoute in the Jellieco Maiden Stakes. Then, after riding a couple of runners for John Winter, he will hasten to Kempton Park where he has five more fancied rides for Stoute.

Sidjistan should be capable of making a winning debut. Apparently this chestnut colt by Riverman has been acquiring himself really well on the Newmarket Heath recently. However, he feels that Vital Boy, Swinburn's mount in the California Handicap may not be equal to the task of giving 11lb to Puget.

In his last race Puget was beaten only a head over two miles and 115 yards at Redcar after leading for most of the way up that long straight. Today's shorter distance of 4 furlongs could easily suit him better and he is napped to give his accomplished young jockey Richard Hill another winning ride.

Ma Petite Jolie (7.0) and Salilia (7.30) look the pick of Swinburn's rides at Kempton.

After being just caught over seven furlongs at Sandown, Ma Petite Jolie was switched back to six furlongs for her next race at Newmarket. However, she found the pace a bit too hot that day and could finish only third behind Manistair, beaten just under two lengths. I feel that Kempton's easy seven-furlong course will suit her really well, with the conditions of the Stock Exchange Maiden Fillies Stakes.

Salilia, her stable and travelling companion, is an underexposed filly who could easily turn out to be a blot on the Newmarket Heath recently. However, he feels that Vital Boy, Swinburn's mount in the California Handicap may not be equal to the task of giving 11lb to Puget.

After a good run behind Salilia, the Wolverhampton Abbeys will be fancied by many to win the St. Paul's Maiden Stakes. But her I just prefer Leinster Lad, who shaped with even great promise in the spring when he finished fourth behind Skaramanga at Newmarket and Khaleel at York.

Leinster Lad is trained at Arundel by John Dunlop, whose entire stable has been laid low by a virus for the better part of two months. However, I think his first two runners for a long time both performed encouragingly at Windsor on Monday.

Promised Isle, another member of that 200-strong Arundel string runs in the Throgmorton Handicap, but after his lengthy absence he may be hard pressed to give as much



Tom Forrester, a fancied runner in Kempton's Throgmorton Handicap this evening (9.0)

as 24lb to Tom Forrester, who is in form. With Ian Balding's two-year-old fillies virtually carrying all before them it will be a bold person who opposes Agate in the EBF Evershott Maiden Stakes at Bath. I noted this great daughter of Try Me best finishing really well in fifth place at Salisbury when she made her debut in the race won by Nasilia.

Over the years none has commanded a greater following at Bath than Joe Mercer, who must know the Somerset course like the back of his hand by now. Today Spanish Reel should be one to benefit from his expertise in the Westgate Handicap, especially if he has improved a bit since finishing second to Hardnockin at Beverley last month. In the meantime his conqueror has drawn attention to the form by winning two more handicaps.

Simon Sherwood, the champion amateur rider over the jumps for the last two seasons, has his last ride on Saturday as an amateur before embarking on a career as a professional. Sherwood will be riding on the flat at Kempton Park in an international Abbeys race.

Sherwood's decision to turn professional next year, after almost a decade as an amateur, will have a number of riders from Fred Minter, as well as sharing the honours in the John Jinks stable with John O'Neill and Steve Smith Eccles.

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KEMPTON PARK

Going: good to firm

Draw: no advantage

6.30 KEMPTON HANDICAP (2-y-o: £2,019: 5f) (8 runners)

1. 104 SWIFT'S PAL (C) 2-y-o: 5f: 11.11
2. 101 STEEL CYGNET (C) 2-y-o: 5f: 11.11
3. 102 DONS CHIEF (C) 2-y-o: 5f: 11.11
4. 103 CRESTA LEAP (R) 2-y-o: 5f: 11.11
5. 104 MISS VESPER (C) 2-y-o: 5f: 11.11
6. 105 MAGALYFA (C) 2-y-o: 5f: 11.11
7. 106 MISS VESPER (C) 2-y-o: 5f: 11.11
8. 107 MISS VESPER (C) 2-y-o: 5f: 11.11

10.44 Halloway Cove 7.7 A Mackay (13-2) A Bailey 11.11

11.4 Swif's Pal, 4 Cressa Leap, 5 Halloway, 13-2 Don's Chief, 8 Steel Cygnet, 12 Magalys, 14 Miss Vesper, 15 By Chance

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YARMOUTH

Going: good to firm

Draw: no advantage

2.15 JELLICO MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o: £284: 6f) (8 runners)

1. 101 SWIFT'S PAL (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
2. 102 STEEL CYGNET (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
3. 103 DONS CHIEF (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
4. 104 CRESTA LEAP (R) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
5. 105 MISS VESPER (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
6. 106 MAGALYFA (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
7. 107 MISS VESPER (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
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YARMOUTH

Going: good to firm

Draw: no advantage

2.15 JELLICO MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o: £284: 6f) (8 runners)

1. 101 SWIFT'S PAL (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
2. 102 STEEL CYGNET (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
3. 103 DONS CHIEF (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
4. 104 CRESTA LEAP (R) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
5. 105 MISS VESPER (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
6. 106 MAGALYFA (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
7. 107 MISS VESPER (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11
8. 108 MISS VESPER (C) 2-y-o: 6f: 11.11

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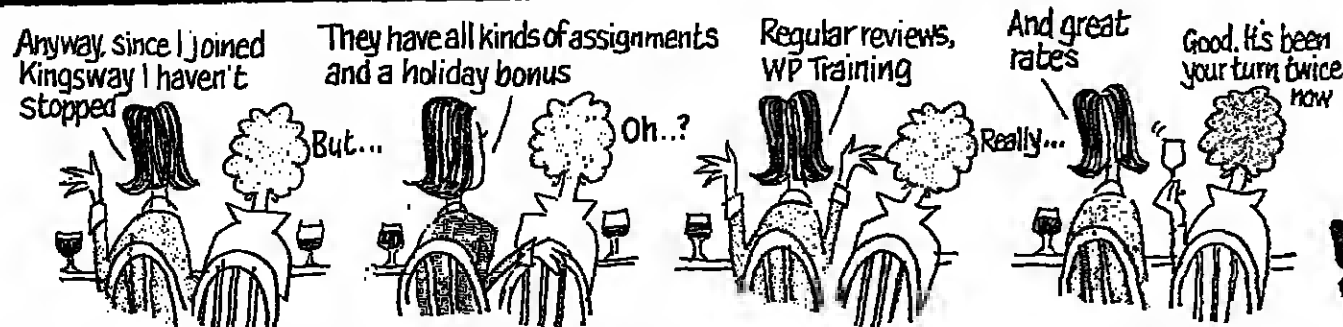
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1 week, 2 weeks, 3 weeks, 4 WEEKS holiday pay per year PLUS...
Bank Holiday pay, free word processor training, sick pay scheme and an excellent choice of interesting assignments.
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Senior appointment with broad-ranging responsibilities
SECRETARY TO SENIOR DIRECTOR
 LONDON EC3 £11,000

INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE BROKING GROUP
 This responsible appointment calls for candidates aged 23-36 with first class shorthand and typing skills and ideally experience gained in a commercial environment. The duties cover the full range of senior secretarial work, including all correspondence, day to day administration etc. and the successful applicant will be required to get really involved in the business. Working conditions are excellent with modern office equipment and word processing training will be provided. A telephone, mature outlook and flexible approach, the ability to plan and assess priorities, good communication skills and a smart appearance are the qualities we seek. Initial remuneration is negotiable with base salary up to £10,500 + discretionary profit share, good pension and other company benefits. Applications in strict confidence under reference SS0642/IT to the Managing Director.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LIMITED (RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS), 35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1NH. TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374. FAX NO: 01-638 9216.

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Thames
 Temporaries

Our Client, a well-known British Company, is involved in the sponsorship of international sporting events. As Secretary in their active Marketing & Sponsorship Department you will be encouraged to become totally involved - and this may occasionally mean attending weekend sporting events. In your early twenties, with good speeds and WP knowledge, you will have at least two years' experience. Though this is initially a temporary appointment it is likely to become permanent so you can anticipate a salary of £23,000 and share ownership scheme, together with the added pleasures of free lunches, subsidised bar and 25 days annual holiday. Call Jennifer Cole for further details, on 01-437 8314

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Qualified and experienced Secretary with good shorthand ability required. Able to work on own initiative and accept responsibility. Responsible to the Postgraduate Education Secretary for the work of a number of committees and committee chairman and assistance with conferences and seminars. A medical background would be an advantage but is not essential. Excellent working conditions, free lunches, salary £7,500 to £8,000, for 35 hour week according to age and experience.
 Application form and job description from the college secretary.
 RCOG
 27 Sussex Place, Regents Park, London NW1 4RG.
 Telephone: 01-262 5425 ext. 223.

CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRY

Secretary to the Parliamentary Adviser

The Parliamentary Adviser maintains contact with Parliamentarians of all Parties to explain British business policies at Westminster. His secretary must have a knowledge of Parliament and its procedures and the ability to converse with Members of both Houses. Good secretarial skills are essential and WP experience desirable.
 Salary range from £7,000 to £8,000 depending on age and experience. Other benefits include BUPA, season ticket loan, 15 days holiday per year, subsidised restaurant.
 We also have other vacancies for secretaries with good skills - at all levels.
 For further discussion please call Leigh Mason on 379 3211.

Elizabeth Hunt
 No Shorthand £9,000 neg

Based in prestige City office, join this well established firm of Estate Agents as Secretary to the Partner of the International Division. This position is very varied and ideal for a well organised person with a flair for administration. 80 hours per week. 30/35 skills needed.

Ready to Recruit £9,500
 A very well established firm engaged in executive search seeks a calm mature secretary to a Director. Help set up interviews, handle research projects and enjoy a full PA role. 30/35 skills needed.

In the City £10,000
 A very successful firm of management consultants seeks a senior secretary at director level. This is a busy position as your boss has a hectic business life and travels extensively. He therefore needs a well organised person to run his office smoothly. Excellent benefits include twice yearly salary reviews, 180/30 skills needed.

At the Top £11,000
 A very well known company closely connected to the newspaper industry seeks a PA/Secretary to a Senior Director. Good secretarial skills are essential. 30/35 but the successful candidate should only take up 30% of your day. Excellent benefits include 5 weeks holiday.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
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 3 Bedford Street Covent Garden WC2 Tel: 01-240 3511
 23 College Hill London EC4 Tel: 01-240 3551

MRC CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTRE (Northwick Park Hospital)
 Watford Rd, Harrow, Middx HA1 3UJ
SENIOR PERSONAL SECRETARY To the Director

The senior, confidential post calls for the skills of a well-educated, responsible, and experienced personal secretary. The appointee will assist with all administrative tasks in the Research Centre and Northwick Park Hospital complex and supervise the secretarial services of this Institute as a whole.
 Salary from £8,455 - £8,265 according to experience & qualifications (pay award pending) plus proficiency payments if appropriate.
 Apply in the first instance to Betty Shaw Personnel Section, 01- 864 5311 ext. 2050

SECRETARY (Highgate Village)

North London based Advertising and Marketing Agency seeks a professional secretary to work for a Director and his management group of 34 people. Attractive environment. Salary circa £8,000 plus extensive benefits.

Contact: Catherine Davenport Tel: 01-341 3311
DCBA
 The Creative Marketing Agency
 Stable House, 644 Highgate High Street, LONDON N6 5HX.

WESTMINSTER, SW1 (Nr Victoria Station)
 £9,000 pa (+ BUPA, Pension, Life Assurance, etc)

Small organisation, in pleasant location, specialising in Corporate Finance matters for UK and USA clients. Requires an efficient and responsible Secretary who can deal with prospectus and general commercial matters. Applicants should be within the 24 to 40 age group, be experienced Audio Typists and have Word Processor (preferably WordStar) and Telex skills.
 Please telephone Mrs Le Roux on 01-828 8633 for further details.

"COUNTRY LIFE" PROPERTIES
 UP TO £9,000 - W.1

A top class audio PA required to work for a well known property company, which specialises in quality country estates. An interesting and varied workload. Secretarial appointments offices in the heart of central London.
 Ring Gillian Elwood tel. 07102.

SECRETARY P.A.

We are a City firm of Solicitors and require a SH Secretary PA for a busy partner in Company Law. Excellent salary offered plus bonus, LV's, etc. Legal experience preferable but not essential. Bright capable applicants are asked to call Mr Perry, 01-377 9490 or write enclosing a CV to S. F. Perry, Personnel Manager, Ashurst, Morris, Crisp and Co., Broadgate House, 7 Eldon St., London, EC2 (no agencies).

CHARTERED ARCHITECTS IN W.1

requires the services of experienced shorthand secretaries. W.P. trained or willing to learn. The person appointed will be required to become involved in important & interesting projects and to exercise intelligence and initiative. Salary negotiable relating to age and experience. Please write in first instance, giving full C.V., age and salary required to:
 The Personnel Assistant,
 The Fitzroy Robinson Partnership,
 77 Portland Place, W1N 4EP.

THE PROFESSIONAL APPROACH

Our professional team of senior level temporary Secretaries has established an excellent reputation and is always in demand for our wide variety of clients. You will need speeds of 100/50. 2 years' Director level experience in Central London and W.P. skills are always a bonus. Why not be positively appreciated and tempt at the level you deserve with first-class hourly rates?

Please telephone for our information leaflet: 434 4512
Crone Corkill
 Recruitment Consultants
 99-101 Regent St. W1

Yes, I know you're back, Miss Deacon. I'd still like to hang onto that excellent temporary we got from...
Senior Secretaries
 CITY 01-406 9171/WEST END 01-436 8032
 The first numbers to ring

COMPUTE YOUR SUCCESS
 £10,000 neg

Join one of London's leading software houses where you will assist the Managing Director handling day-to-day correspondence, organising marketing events and exhibitions. Useful overseas work travel. The ideal candidate will be a self-starter with a good knowledge of the computer field and looking for a career and have shorthand and typing, then call GINA HADLER on 734 0911.

DRAKE PERSONNEL
 638 2901
 ERA
 Recruitment Consultants

TEMPORARY DIVISION
 CITY BANKING APPOINTMENTS

Marvellous opportunities for SH/PA SECRETARIES, WANG OPERATORS, and other office skills to be found in City environment. Marvellous and interesting work. IMMEDIATE VACANCIES.

Dulcie Simpson
 430 1551/2653

THE COSMETICS

I am currently holding several vacancies for lively 2nd jobs (two) requiring excellent French. If you are well groomed, enjoy a glamorous hard-working environment within fabulous offices and possess some secretarial skills (90/50) Telephone
 Josephine Morrison
 on 629 4343

INTERNATIONAL BANKING SECRETARIES P.A.
 £11,000 + Mort

A unique secretarial post in the heart of the City. The office is a well known international bank. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. You will be required to handle a large volume of correspondence and to act as a liaison between the bank and its clients. You will also be responsible for the organisation of the bank's social and cultural activities. Salary £11,000 + Mort.

CORPORATE FINANCE SECRETARIES £8,800 + Mort

Shortlisted secretaries with previous banking experience, regional for a well established major investment bank. You will be required to handle a large volume of correspondence and to act as a liaison between the bank and its clients. Salary £8,800 + Mort.

SECRETARY ON THE MOVE
 £9,000

The retail division of Mills and Allen International, one of the world's largest money brokers and advertising contractors, is planning to double in size over the next two years! As part of this expansion we are looking for a bright (A level or above) capable secretary to work with our Managing Director and our Personnel Director. The position is based at London Bridge, but will relocate to Northwood upon this year.

Telephone Lynn Derges 01-407 5555

6 month Contract £12,000 per rate PA TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE

required for small headquarters office City based. Existing back into the commercial world or not sure which route to take next? An ideal opportunity to start a substantial salary in a senior position yet only with a 6 month contract. Salary £12,000 per rate. 5.0 hours & typing preferred. For further information please telephone
 Matthews Recruitment 626 1699

ORGANISATIONAL FLAIR
 £9,500

Assess the newly appointed MD within the UK Head Office of this American-based company. Your secret level capabilities will be stretched to the full as you develop your position alongside his success. Your loyalty will be rewarded in the form of a salary increase. Less than £10,000 with normal and with the Regional Offices (as well as the States), overseas experiences and commitment to personal and professional development. Please write, enclosing curriculum vitae, photograph and names and addresses of two referees.
 The Director of Studies, Aiglon College, 1685 Chateaux Villars, Switzerland.

PA - Willing to travel
 2 neg. + perks

Plausible PA with exp. sec. skills & no domestic duties. Must be able to travel at short notice. Age 27-35 years.

MARKETING SEC.
 £10,000 - £12,000

Research and produce stat. charts together with sales duties. Personal computer knowledge essential. 30/35/40 80/90 - age 25-35. Apply
 The Sussex Mills Portfolio
 242 3276
 or write
 115, High Holborn
 London WC1 (Agt.)

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST
 £8,500 + bonus

My client is a young successful firm of Lloyd's brokers based in architect designed offices in EC3. They seek a first class Receptionist, aged 20-26, to look after a busy reception area and Monarch switchboard. This is a key position and an intelligent outgoing person would enjoy the challenges & fun it offers. 5.0 hours & typing preferred. For further information please telephone
 Mary Batmans Recruitment
 01-734 5771

YOUNG "GRAD" PA
 £7,500

He is the "Head" of Economics and will respond to your detailed enquiries. You will be studying statistics, researching information and collecting facts. Your job will have a marketing analysis bias. An interesting opportunity. With your Sec skills call
 Monica Widdowson on 621 0954

DRAKE PERSONNEL

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Experienced French-speaking secretary required for Studies Office in English educational School in the Swiss Alps. Age 25 plus: good salary and holidays. Educated to at least 'A' level. Ability to keep accurate records and work on own initiative essential. Knowledge of German useful. Please write, enclosing curriculum vitae, photograph and names and addresses of two referees.
 The Director of Studies, Aiglon College, 1685 Chateaux Villars, Switzerland.

Magazine Publishing
 £9,000

National Office in Literary Travel Magazine Publishing is looking for a personable, bright and efficient PA/Secretary, who is a self-starter with good skills, and an ability to communicate effectively at all levels.
 You will be closely involved in all aspects of the work including publicity, liaising with contributors and general administration in the dynamic, creative environment.
 Please call: 499 6566 or 493 6363

The Grosvenor Bureau

PERSONALITY + £10,000

Flamboyant, dynamic M.D. of Marketing Co. urgently needs a P.A. sec. with top skills, plenty of character and charm. Involvement, responsibility and scope are on offer if you fit the bill.
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JAYGAR

Senior Receptionist

Required for Pam Brooks Ltd. Applicants should be well presented and have experience on a Monarch switchboard. Typing ability essential. Please ring Christine Stapleton for further information and an application form.
 Tel: 01-373 6070
 Ext 271

SECRETARY P.A.
 £10,000

Excellent chance to work for two progressive property management companies. Please full CV to the managing director. Typing letters and reports, organising meetings, and conferences and generally running the office smoothly. (No agencies)
abatt
 01-937 3676

Executive Search
 £10,500

This is a high-quality opening for a young, socially poised and confident person. As PA/Secretary to Senior Consultants you will be involved in arranging interviews and co-ordinating projects, in addition to providing full secretarial support. A pleasant, friendly 'team' spirit pervades this small, family-run company with attractive SVN office. Accurate, shorthand/audio typing and, ideally, some WP experience, requested. Age 25 years. Please telephone 01-493 5787.

Gordon Yates Ltd.
 35 Old Bond Street, London W1
 (Recruitment Consultants)

ADMINISTRATOR WANDSWORTH
 £10,500 +

This well-established and fast expanding company needs a very experienced administrator. The position will include total involvement in becoming totally involved in the day to day running of the company on a daily basis and all the relevant administrative, personnel, operating a PC for preparation of budgets and forecasts, monitoring other departments within the company and maintaining a high standard of service. It is envisaged that the post will lead to a full management role within 6-7 months.
 Age range 30-40.
 01-499 0032
 01-493 5967

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An exciting opportunity has arisen with a well known charity for a Secretary / Assistant to become totally involved in its activities. Assuming the Director you will have full responsibility for the organisation of various events such as balls, dinners, sporting events, etc. etc. etc. to include liaison with the charity's members and sponsors, attending the events and full secretarial back up, as well as your own correspondence. This is a key role in the executive suite of a leading Banking consortium where a professional approach, good skills and a flair for organisation will ensure an enthusiastic contribution at the end of each day!
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 434 4512

Crone Corkill
 Recruitment Consultants
 99, Regent Street, W1

£13,000

Can you keep a junior Secretary busy and a Chief Executive sane? This is a key role in the executive suite of a leading Banking consortium where a professional approach, good skills and a flair for organisation will ensure an enthusiastic contribution at the end of each day!
 Please call
 434 4512

Directors' Secretaries

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 £10,000

Excellent chance to work for two progressive property management companies. Please full CV to the managing director. Typing letters and reports, organising meetings, and conferences and generally running the office smoothly. (No agencies)
abatt
 01-937 3676

SECRETARY/PA to Marketing Director

Dowty Electronics is one of Britain's most successful, commercial companies in today's fast expanding world of high technology. The Communications Division, based at Greenford, is now looking for a Senior Secretary with director level experience. You should possess a strong personality, together with the necessary organising ability to provide high-calibre support for the Marketing Director and other Managers within the Marketing Department.

Your proven experience will be complemented by excellent secretarial skills and would preferably include experience of WP. It is unlikely that anyone under 28 will have the depth of experience and skills necessary for this wide-ranging brief.

Recognising your importance we'll offer a salary up to c. £9,000 pa together with the range of benefits you'd usually associate with a successful expanding company.

In the first instance please send a full CV to Diana Griffiths, Personnel Officer, Dowty Electronics Ltd., Communications Division, 419 Bridport Road, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 8UA.

DOWTY

PERSONAL SECRETARY

The Commonwealth Development Corporation is concerned with the promotion, operation and management of a wide variety of projects in the developing areas of the world, and we are looking for a Secretary to work for one of our Deputy General Managers. The post involves a fair amount of administration and responsibility as the Senior Secretary in a team of three. The ideal applicant will have experience of dealing at senior management level, excellent shorthand and typing, good organisational ability and knowledge of, or a willingness to learn word processing.

Our benefits include a competitive starting salary, free lunch and a non-contributory pension scheme. Please send curriculum vitae or ring for an application form to:

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An architect partner requires a personal secretary with initiative and good secretarial skills. Previous similar experience and an interest in architecture and design would be an advantage. Please reply to:

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Your shorthand is good and you enjoy working at the very top, this company will train you onto their WP and give you bonuses and increments on top of your salary.

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 This young Managing Director is looking for a marvellous P.A. Secretary, well educated and polished - lots of flair and business acumen a must - as you'll be dealing with glamorous accounts at the highest level. Top skills, 100/60. Lots of perks. Age up to 27.
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 Individual career advice for secretaries and personal assistants

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Trade 01-278 9161/5

La Crème
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PA/Administrator
to £12,000**

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If you would like to be considered for this position please contact:

01-835 4086

**Client Services
£9,000**

A highly team spirit Secretary, with a mature outlook, is required to assist the Head of the Client Services Department within this well known Advertising Agency, in W1.

Besides being a super Secretary, your organisational skills will be used to the full in helping with graduate recruitment, personnel matters and setting up training courses as well as acting as co-ordinator to ensure the smooth running of the department.

This is an ideal opportunity for a secretary preferably with advertising experience to work on a very busy and varied job.

Specs 90.60 Age 22-28

629 9686

WEST END OFFICE

ANGELA MORTIMER

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£210,000**

Fabulous opportunity within the exciting world of an international advertising agency. As Secretary/PA to a young, lively Director you will team all there is to in this dynamic industry. Lots of administration and telephone contact as well as short-hand and typing. (WP experience an advantage but not essential). If you have a lively personality and need a challenge, call AMANDA BUENO on 734 0911 for an immediate appointment.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

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SECRETARY £9,000+**

A major well known international firm with superb offices are seeking a professional Secretary to work for the Divisional Director, enjoy getting involved with international affairs, arranging meetings, travel & dealing with VIP's. Candidates should have good secretarial skills & be capable of working on own initiative. Excellent career benefits.

For more details call

439 8287

Miss Austin
ABC Rec

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY**

is required to work for a Chief Executive. The work involves close contact with senior officials in the financial and commercial sectors. A high standard of shorthand and typing, with attention to detail is required together with the ability to take a word processor. The applicant must be able to work on own initiative. Age 40 plus. Salary about £11,000 per annum. Please write full details to Staff Manager, The Bankers Clearing House Ltd, 18 Lombard St, London EC3A 7BP.

**SUPER
SECRETARY**

For an exciting, expanding and financially sound practice. The job is demanding, offers great involvement, accurate, fast shorthand/typing and efficient, calm application to a wide range of general administrative duties will ensure the smooth running of our office.

Please send CV to:

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**BOYCE BI-LINGUAL
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British National with good commercial Turkish to work in plush West End offices. Duties include international telephone liaison and compilation of progress reports on business accounts & literary skills important. 23 yrs + £9,500 package.

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(Mon-Fri 9.30-4.30) EMP ANY

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Capable person required for lively Chelsea Estate Agency. Usual secretarial duties.

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He is abroad frequently and expects his travel arrangements and expenses to be organized smoothly, efficiently and often immediately.

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CITY

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PA Secretarial Recruitment

**Private Sec
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Our client is a Principal Director and entrepreneur of singular charm, involved (amongst other things) in the planning of property developments. As personal secretary you will work with him on all aspects - diary, meetings, client liaison etc. in addition to leading support in private matters e.g. preliminary interviews for railways, etc. You should be well-presented, with strong organising skills and excellent shorthand/typing. Age 30-40 years. Please telephone 01-493 5787.

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Fabulous opportunity within the exciting world of an international advertising agency. As Secretary/PA to a young, lively Director you will team all there is to in this dynamic industry. Lots of administration and telephone contact as well as short-hand and typing. (WP experience an advantage but not essential). If you have a lively personality and need a challenge, call AMANDA BUENO on 734 0911 for an immediate appointment.

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A major well known international firm with superb offices are seeking a professional Secretary to work for the Divisional Director, enjoy getting involved with international affairs, arranging meetings, travel & dealing with VIP's. Candidates should have good secretarial skills & be capable of working on own initiative. Excellent career benefits.

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For an exciting, expanding and financially sound practice. The job is demanding, offers great involvement, accurate, fast shorthand/typing and efficient, calm application to a wide range of general administrative duties will ensure the smooth running of our office.

Please send CV to:

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(no agencies)

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British National with good commercial Turkish to work in plush West End offices. Duties include international telephone liaison and compilation of progress reports on business accounts & literary skills important. 23 yrs + £9,500 package.

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7 Ldgate Sq (off) Ldgate Rd, E4A
(Mon-Fri 9.30-4.30) EMP ANY

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Capable person required for lively Chelsea Estate Agency. Usual secretarial duties.

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YOURS**

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Director of Int Electronics Co requires a top flight person with good skills in sales. You should be motivated, self-motivated, enjoy admin and be able to run the office in his absence. Good benefits.

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Main Board Director of this famous international news agency needs a "team player" to assist him. Responsibilities include top-level liaison, organising quarterly Board meetings (no minutes), agenda, travel, expenses and accommodation for Directors from overseas. Good shorthand/typing (100/60) will only amount for 30% of the time as there is an experienced secretary to help you. Board level experience, good educational background (A Levels) & smart appearance essential. 6 weeks' holidays plus good benefits. Age 25-35.

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Crone Corkill

Recruitment Consultants
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**INTERIOR DESIGN
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This is an excellent opportunity if you have trade experience in join this small & expanding co in Battersea. Working as part of a team you will co-ordinate with designers in the Middle East in supplying them with furnishings. You should be a good organiser with a strong personality, be well presented & be a fast typist. Good typing is required but no shorthand. Age 24-30.

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of Bond St.**

No.55 (next door to Fawcetts)
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**RECEPTIONIST/
TELEPHONIST
£8,500 + bonus**

My client is a young successful firm of Lloyds brokers based in a prestigious office in EC3. They need a first class Receptionist, aged 20-25, to look after a busy reception area and monitor switchboard. This is a key position and an intelligent outgoing person would enjoy the challenge & fun it offers. 5.0 levels & typing preferred. For further information please telephone

Mary Batmans Recruitment
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**EXPERIENCED
SECRETARY**

Required for interesting international Medical Consultancy Practice in Harley Street. The work involves a significant amount of administration and running the office to all aspects as well as normal medical secretarial duties. Previous medical experience not essential. The position would suit someone of an independent character with a sense of humour. Salary negotiable.

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Dr. R. E. Crockett
77 Harley Street, London W1M 1DE

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American Law Office with a staff of 12 requires an intelligent receptionist/telephonist. Duties include making travel arrangements and some record keeping. The right person will be a non-smoker, have good social skills, a neat appearance and clear speech. Hours 9am - 5.30pm, Salary competitive.

Please write to Mrs P. Mounsey,
58, Coleman Street,
London, EC2R 6SE

**PRIVATE
SECRETARY**

required in small medical office at Oxford Circus. Office skills & experience plus ability to work long periods alone using own initiative essential for this varied & interesting position. Salary neg.

Tel: 01-837 9255

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As Travel Admin. Secretary for this trading Merchant Bank, you will have total responsibility for organising the specialist team of Bankers who set up and develop mortgage subsidy.

A flexible, highly organised approach as you will book flights, arrange foreign currency transfers and coordinate all administration and correspondence. The Company provides excellent on-going training and regularly offers opportunities for career progression.

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A mortgage subsidy worth up to £2,000 an offer in addition to a good salary of £8,000 per annum.

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Your duties will include interviewing patients on their admission, discharging patients, ensuring that their bills accurately reflect the charges incurred and making arrangements for settlement of their accounts. Preference will be given to applicants with sound experience of computerised accounting systems. Preferred age 23-4. Cromwell Hospital in Kensington is ideally situated for transport and is close to Earl's Court and High Street Kensington. Salary and benefits are in line with the best in the private sector.

For further details and an application form, please phone Helen O'Keefe, Personnel Assistant, Cromwell Hospital, Cromwell Road, London SW5 0TL. Tel: 01-370 4233 ext. 5528.

CROMWELL HOSPITAL

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MANAGING DIRECTOR**

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We are an equal opportunities employer.

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A major US multi-national is seeking a high calibre secretary to work for its international personnel manager based in prestigious executive offices in West London. The position involves a variety of international personal offices including the administration of international pay & benefits systems. In addition to the normal secretarial & administrative responsibilities, excellent processing of travel and visa matters are essential together with an ability with figures, the ability to understand & digest information quickly & communicate effectively with people at all levels.

Graduate, educated to degree or equivalent level should have a minimum of 2 years secretarial experience at management level, preferably trained in the personnel department of a large company. The remuneration will include an excellent salary, bonus, excellent contributory pension scheme & free BUPA.

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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
for Chief Executive**

Busy Chief Executive needs 1st class Executive Secretary to run his office. The successful candidate will currently be working at senior level and will have excellent secretarial and administrative skills. A pleasant personality is essential as is the ability to work under pressure. This is a London based job at the headquarters of a major international service company. Salary negotiable in the £10,000-£12,000 range, excellent working conditions.

Please reply to Box 2002 L The Times.

★WELCOME★

Tonight we would like to invite you to come in and see us in our City office. We will be holding an open evening between 5 pm and 6.30 pm in order to meet secretaries who find it difficult to visit us during office hours. It will be a very informal evening and we are very easy to find - just 3 minutes from the Bank - Watbrook exit, or 1 minute from Cannon Street tube - Dorgate Hill exit.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
23 College Hill London EC4A 3SS
Telephone 01-240 3551

PROPERTY

The Chairman of the small property company based in W1 is looking for a PA/Secretary. He is involved in setting up new projects in a variety of interesting commercial ventures and needs a PA who will work to him and understand the business. The successful candidate will hold the first on his frequent trips to the US and will also be taken out to see many of the projects on site. Age 25-35. Speeds 100/60 + WP.

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Due to expansion a well spoken and well presented graduate is needed to join the team of research assistants. You will need to have a mathematical approach to your work and enjoy being a member of a small team. Essential skills include a good telephone manner and some typing. A knowledge of computers is also an advantage. Age 22-25. Salary £5,000.

CORROD AND DAVIS RECRUITMENT LTD.
35 Brixton Place W1. 01-493 7789

CDR

A Gilt-Edged Career

In the City's surge to become a broader international marketplace, British Merchant Banks are buying into Stockbrokers and emerging as major Investment Banks/Securities Houses.

They are responding to changes in world banking by searching-out new sources of capital - fuelling enormous growth in the City and creating an explosion in secretarial career opportunities.

For a route to the top you can bank on us for all the guidance and advice you will need. Contact Clare Hudson B.A.

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The Head of Department within this Merchant Bank requires a highly organised Assistant with a good command of English, initially to act as his PA, with the opportunity to develop into a Junior Executive.

He is responsible for Bonds and loans and will rely on you for accuracy and consistency in preparing business proposals. In addition you will handle research and co-ordinate meetings/client visits. Ideally you will be numerate, of Graduate calibre with sound secretarial abilities (100/50) and in your mid-20's.

Most important is the desire and ambition to succeed within this thriving, young industry. An outstanding package of £11,500 is offered.

**£11,000 AND ABOVE
DEPENDING ON EXPERIENCE**

**Marketing Support
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Inteco Corporation, one of Europe's leading specialised management consultancies covering information technology markets, seeks the following:

★ A career minded person 28+ who can support Inteco's over-worked and often pressurised marketing department.

★ You need to be capable of conference administration, telephone prospecting; be prepared to do some foreign travel; have first class secretarial skills; be well organised.

★ Foreign languages useful (French and German). Preference will be given to candidates with early availability.

Please send a detailed CV with earnings history to:

**ROGER R. BARNES
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
INTECO CORPORATION
60 THE STRAND, LONDON WC2N 5LR**

Superwoman! £9,500

This international advertising agency offers a dedicated PA the opportunity to use their organisational skills to the full. Co-ordinating graduate recruitment, dealing with new business contacts and working closely with two account supervisors will be a small part of your responsibilities. This is an extremely busy and varied position which for an enthusiastic secretary could develop further. Age: 22-30 Skills: 100/60

Chairman: Mayfair £9,000

This demanding but appreciative Chairman needs a top notch PA to run the office smoothly and organise his business life. This job is busy, varied and much of your time will be spent arranging meetings and lunches in these beautiful surroundings. Age: 22-30 Skills: 100/60

Famous Names £7,500

Meet the rich and famous working for the Managing Director of this exclusive luxury goods retailer. This is a rare opportunity for someone with impeccable skills, smart appearance, style and poise. Age: 20-25 Skills: 90/50

HAZELL STATION ASSOCIATES

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to Financial Director

LONDON, MAYFAIR SALARY £8,000

Essence Ltd., the world's leading hair and beauty salon organisation, are looking for a Secretary for the Financial Director/Company Secretary in their Mayfair offices.

In addition to general secretarial duties, the position provides considerable opportunity for the individual to use her (his) own initiative and to become deeply involved in the work of the department. The successful applicant should be able to deal with staff and management at all levels and should have at least RSA Stage II typing and 100 wpm shorthand, plus GCE "O" Level English Language, Grade C, or above. Ability to operate a word processor, although not essential, would be a distinct advantage.

Benefits include free hairdressing, reduced rate beauty products and luncheon vouchers.

Please write, enclosing C.V., to Mr S. R. Cole, Essence Ltd., 6 Curzon Place, London W1.

Ask Alfred Marks

Legal Audio WP

If you have good WP and legal experience, this job will keep you busy! Great opportunity for mature young person to climb the legal ladder.

Call Sally Jones now for interviews

01-631 5252

100 Oxford Street

(above the Jazz Club)

ALFRED MARKS Recruitment Consultants

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A financial and corporate public relations company - part of a major Fleet Street agency with modern air conditioned offices needs a young bright secretary who will enjoy sharing their enthusiasm and commitment. Good shorthand/typing, administrative skills and some office experience, coupled with the self-confidence to speak easily on the telephone to clients will be essential. Salary negotiable.

Ring KIRSTEN SCUDAMORE

01-583 2525

**Secretary for
leading Scandinavian
trading company.**

Our client is the head of a Scandinavian trading firm, a subsidiary of a renowned oil and gas company and requires a highly efficient and experienced secretary for a permanent post, initially commencing on a temporary basis. You should possess the obvious secretarial prerequisites and the confidence and ability to handle clients and important administrative tasks. Situated in smart offices in Mayfair, the successful candidate will be working in the Head Office and the envisaged salary will be £14,000.

Please contact Victoria Martin on 01-499 9175.

MacBlain

Temporary Secretaries

Recruitment Consultants
16 Hammer Square London W1R 6AL

Executive Secretary

c.£8000

Major International Company

Wembley

At the Wembley headquarters of M. W. Kellogg we need a high calibre Secretary to work for the Manager of our Legal Department.

Whilst legal experience is not essential, you must have fast, accurate shorthand and typing (100/60). Word processing training will be provided where necessary.

In addition to the above salary, the Company offers generous benefits including private medical insurance and an interest-free season ticket (loan or free parking space).

Please write with a C.V. and a telephone number to contact you on to: Terri Ganose, Personnel Department, M. W. Kellogg Limited, Stadium Way, Wembley HA9 0EE.

M.W. Kellogg Limited

Ask Alfred Marks

SECRETARY/PA

Personnel/administration

£8500 plus package

Company will train on WP

If you have experience of working in personnel/administration department, have a sound positive approach, fast typing, rusty shorthand knowledge of audio and want a job where you can prove your dedication and put your skills to the test. This international banking organisation in SW1 want to see your Knowledge of Arabic distinct advantage.

Call Samantha James
Alfred Marks St. James's
41 Pall Mall St. James's
London SW1Y 6BU 4833

HERE TO HELP YOU

ALFRED MARKS Recruitment Consultants

TOP PA/SECRETARY

Chairman/MD of a large group of Publishing and Advertising Companies requires an enthusiastic, hard-working PA/Sec. Intelligent and calm approach to full PA role and excellent secretarial skills are essential. Plenty of involvement.

Please send letters of application and CVs to: Janice Cook, PO Box 381, Mill Harbour, London E14 9TW.

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

(Historical) p
Radio SO/Bi

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1317. GATE NOTTING HILL
45. 5750. THE FRENCH

[illegible]

Crisis in Belgium leads to early poll

Continued from page 1

Deputy Prime Minister, and a leading Christian Democrat. Mr. Nothomb had refused to resign as Minister of the Interior and so accept political responsibility for what happened at the stadium.

Mr. Gol's party had, in fact, supported Mr. Nothomb at the end of last week's parliamentary debate on the tragedy, but it had done so reluctantly and only to stop the Government from falling. To his letter of resignation on Monday, Mr. Gol admitted he had decided to go after seeing how vehemently the Liberals' action had been attacked in the press.

Although the Heysel affair provoked the crisis, the coalition's collapse was really caused by the different parties jockeying for position before the general election which must be held before the end of the year.

The centre-right Government has been remarkably durable by Belgian standards and looked set to last its full term of four years.

In French-speaking Wallonia, the Socialists are expected to remain comfortably in control. But there is enormous rivalry here between the Christian Democrats and the Liberals over which finish second, and this is at the root of the Government's collapse.

Mr. Gol wants to prove the Liberals are untainted by the Heysel tragedy; Mr. Nothomb has refused to give way to pressure from the Liberals because that would weaken the position of the Christian Democrats.

Photographs, page 7

Mountbatten papers moved

Lord Mountbatten of Burma's personal papers, with a unique archive covering the lives of Lord Palmerston, Lord Shaftesbury and Lord Mountbatten, are to be transferred later this year on loan to Southampton University library from Broadlands, Lord Mountbatten's Hampshire home, until his death in 1979.

Some will be available to scholars only by permission of the Secretary of the Cabinet.

A 'Gothick' park returns from the wilderness

By John Young

An eighteenth century landscaped park in Surrey, once regarded as one of the finest in England, is being rescued from nearly half a century of neglect and dereliction and restored to its former glory.

Painshill Park, on the edge of Cobham, was created from a barren heath by Charles Hamilton, youngest son of the Earl of Abercorn, who lavished so much money on it that he was eventually forced to sell the land in 1783 to pay his creditors. It survived many changes of ownership until the Second World War, when the estate was used to house Canadian troops and was later broken up and sold in separate lots.

Approaches were made to the National Trust and Surrey county council about the possibility of buying and restoring the park, but both demurred at the likely cost. It was eventually left to Elmbridge borough council to take the enlightened step of purchasing 158 acres out of an original total of about 200, and placing them in the hands of a trust.

With the help of a £1 million grant from the National Heritage Memorial Fund and the co-operation of the Manpower Services Commission, the trust has recently completed the first stage of the rescue. A ruined "Gothick temple" formerly hidden by undergrowth, has been rebuilt in shining white splendour, surrounded by a broad grassy slope sweeping down to the lake.

Bringing Georgian order back to the wilderness is a delicate as well as a time-consuming task. Each of Hamilton's follies, inspired by his travels, including the Temple of Bacchus, the Turkish Tent and the Chinese Bridge, is being painstakingly excavated and studies made to determine how it looked.

The focus of the park is a meandering serpentine lake studded with islands, now green and stagnant, but shortly to be revived by the reinstallation of a cast-iron waterwheel.

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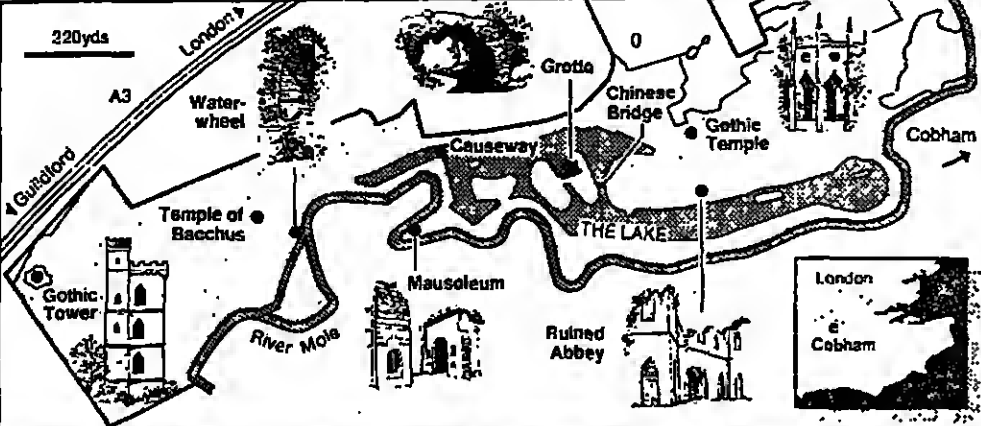
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'Gothick' splendour: An engraving (left) of 1828 showing one of the park's Chinese bridges and its "Gothic Temple", pictured above with two of its youthful restorers. (Photograph: Bryn Cotton).



Georgian glory restored

GOTHIC TOWER: This haunting castellated tower, standing at the highest point of the park, gives a view over three counties on a clear day. Once a semaphore tower, it was gutted by fire in 1973.

WATER WHEEL: Dating from the 1830s, and designed by the firm of Bramah, the cast-iron wheel is 36ft in diameter. It replaced Hamilton's earlier wheel, and raised water from the river Mole.

MAUSOLEUM: Built as a ruined Roman triumphal arch, with niches to contain antique busts and urns, it was symbolic of life's transience.

CHINESE BRIDGE: Once there was a bridge. Now only one remains. They originally linked the Grotto Islands to the lake's edge.

RUINED ABBEY: This Gothic folly, built as a ruin, was an afterthought. Using plastered brick to simulate stone, it had a concealed roof for lovers to shelter under.

GOTHIC TEMPLE: A delightful decahedron pavilion, with ogee arches, quadrifol windows, buttresses, and a painted fan-vaulted ceiling, make it a perfect example of "Georgian Gothick", dating from the 1790s.

Linda Christmas in the Commons Kinnock gets in a pre-safari shot

Mr. Neil Kinnock, the leader of the Opposition, is off to Africa on Thursday. It is not altogether surprising then that he used his last opportunity to wrangle and tangle with the Prime Minister by attacking her Government's record on overseas aid. Perhaps he felt that such a spat would guarantee him a warmer welcome in plighted places where he will be able to contrast the meanness of the present Government with the glorious generosity of the British people under the sway of Mr. Bob Geldof and other pop singers.

Although Mr. Kinnock's teachers are content to claim that he was hopeless at maths and had, indeed, a horror of long division, he does seem to be more than competent with percentages, for he lashed the air with the accusation that this Government had cut its aid budget by 18 per cent in five years, and by a further 2 per cent in the current year in spite of the emergencies in Sudan and Ethiopia. With figures like that what price the brotherhood of man?

Mrs. Margaret Thatcher wisely chose not to barter percentages with her opposite number, nor to tax him with long division. Instead, she recited a list of the millions of pounds that she had been prepared to offer overseas countries. Millions of pounds, while percentage comparisons often do not.

This gave Mr. Kinnock the opportunity to shout, He loves to shout. He learned his debating skills in the canteen of Cardiff University on Friday nights where, it seems, the ability to be heard above the heckling was considered the criteria of success.

So he shouted his desire for an increase in the general aid budget, an increase in the Government's contribution to a specific fund to help poor farmers in Africa, and a flourish demanding that transport assistance also be maintained. The interruptions, as far as he was concerned, merely showed the embarrassment and shame of the benches opposite.

Mrs. Thatcher assured him of her pride in her record and no doubt wished that instead of heading for Africa her sharp-tongued opponent would head for Rockall without a dotting television crew for company. It would remove one major burden from Question Time.

Lifting burdens preoccupied the House for a further hour when the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Mr. John Moore, read a statement on a newly released White Paper designed to remove some 80 regulations and restrictions from the throats of businesses and thus release them to concentrate on expanding their operations rather than complying with bureaucratic requirements.

Brain and tongue in a tag game
Mr. Moore acknowledged that few people had had time to read the White Paper, therefore he was eager to offer short cuts by constantly listing page numbers and clause references. Anyway it proved his familiarity with the document. Mr. Moore said too fast. His words ran into and over each other as though his brain and his tongue were involved in a game of tag.

At times, he sounds like a waiter in a restaurant without a menu where hungry diners are forced to listen to a lyrical recitation at such a rate that they can only remember the last couple of items and are humbled into accepting one or other rather than risk a repeat performance.

Mr. Tooy Blair, from the Opposition front bench, a barrister and no slouch when it comes to the use of words, was at the ready. He may not have devoured the White Paper, but he was suspicious that it was nothing more than a gimmick, an ideological obsession with de-regulation, and designed to draw attention away from unemployment and the Government's inability to decrease it.

A shabby document in his view. And in tune and at speed the two haggled over an unappetising accusation of rhetoric and dogma and ribald cat calling.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

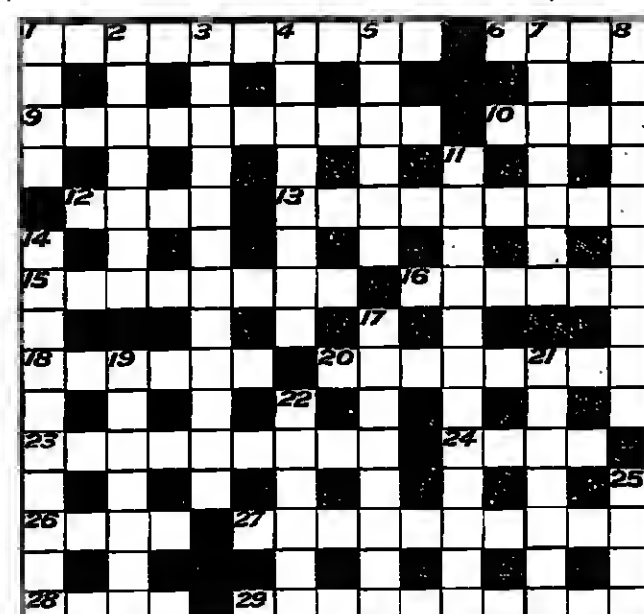
Royal engagements
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh give a garden party at Buckingham Palace, 4.
The Princess of Wales, President, Dr. Barnardo's attends a service to mark the inauguration of the year of the Barnardo Volunteer to Westminster Abbey, 10.55.
Princess Margaret attends a performance by the Royal Ballet School at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, 7.25.
Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, visits the East of England Agricultural Society Show, Peterborough, 10.10.
The Duke and Duchess of Kent attend a garden party at Buckingham Palace, 4, later the Duke of Kent, as chairman of the United Kingdom Committee of European Music Year, attends a performance of Handel's "Ariana", 7.30.

Princess Alexandra, Patron, presents the prizes at the Annual Day of the Royal Soldiers' Daughters' School, Hampshire, NW3, 2.25.
Prince Michael of Kent, as President, attends the council meeting of the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, 11.30. In the afternoon he attends the Royal Tournament, Epsom, 2.30. In the evening he attends, as guest of honour, a charity banquet in aid of the Solicitors Benevolent Association, given by the Holborn Law Society at the Great Hall, Hampton Court Palace, 7.
New exhibitions
My daughter's mind, Ikon Gallery, 58-72 John St. Birmingham, Tues-Sat, 10-6. Sun-Mon closed (ends Aug 10).
Portraits and watercolours by Edward Payne, George Room Gallery, Subscription Rooms, 7.45.

Music
Gower Festival: cello and guitar recital, Llandaff Church, 8.
Bampton Festival: organ recital by Simon Guttridge, St. Mary's Church, Bampton, Oxfordshire, 7.45.
Organ recital by David Bell, St. Andrew's Church, East Devon, 8.
Concert by the Taunton Sinfonia, West Somerset School, Minehead, 8.
Organ recital by Nicholas Durand, Westminster, Nottinghamshire, 7.30.
York Early Music Festival: recital by Ulako Ikeda (flute) and Paul Nicholson (harpsichord), 1. concert by Le Stravagante, 6. both at the Art Gallery, Exhibition Square, concert by the Yorkshire Bach Choir and Baroque Soloists, Assembly Rooms, 8. concert by the York Waits, Guildhall, 8. Harpsichord recital by Penelope Cave and Helena Brown, St. Helen's Church, 10.
Concert by the Sun Life Band, St. Mary Redcliffe Church, Bristol, 8.
Choir of Christ Church, Oxford, with Tim Byers-Wingfield (organ), Dundee School Chapel, Dundee, 7.45.

Recital by Robert Gower, Proctor of Radcliffe College, St. Edmund's Church, Soham, 7.30.
Organ recital by Norman Harper, St. Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, 8.
Concert by Schola Cantorum of Oxford, Chichester Cathedral, 12.30.
Violin recital by Nigel Kennedy, Knebworth House, Knebworth, 7.30.
Talks, lectures
John Martin to William Morris: industry, ideology and art 1800-1900 by Richard Elam, Laing Art Gallery, Highgate Place, Newcastle upon Tyne, 12.30.
General
Summer Spectacular, Mapperdon Gardens, Beamstead, 7 to 11 daily, (until 20 July).
Antiques Fair, Fisher Hall, Guildhall Place, Cambridge, 11 to 8, tomorrow 11 to 5.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,791



- ACROSS**
- Look out - sprinkler ahead, he warns (10).
 - This is short notice for a departure (4).
 - Banded together to veto winner somehow (10).
 - Vocal during corporal punishment (4).
 - Kind of bender the vanquished go off (4).
 - Code of conduct, for strikers of course (9).
 - More capacity than is needed for deliveries by butcher (8).
 - People susceptible to publicity for a dead body (6).
 - Impassive girl much taken aback (6).
 - It's the East End for bad soldiers (4).
 - Kind of garment you don't expect to find reduced (3-6).
 - Classical departure for an actor (4).
 - Sadie Thompson's downfall (4).
 - Made from log chips, it used to be combustible (10).
 - Satisfactory in the old-fashioned collar (4).
 - Luxury saloon for a chap with influence (7-3).
- DOWN**
- Eager to simulate sound (4).
 - Train attendants (7).
 - Lounge lizard is on the floor by evening, we hear (6-6).

Solutions of Puzzle No 16,790

ACROSS
1. RAINBOW
2. SUNDAY
3. BANG
4. CLOTH
5. BANG
6. BANG
7. BANG
8. BANG
9. BANG
10. BANG
11. BANG
12. BANG
13. BANG
14. BANG
15. BANG

Anniversaries

Birth: Isaac Watts, hymn writer, was born at Southampton, 1674.
Death: Adam Smith, political economist, author of *The Wealth of Nations*, Edinburgh, 1790; Charles Grey, 2nd Earl Grey, politician, 1845; James Abbott McNeill Whistler, London, 1903; Alvaro Obregón, president of Mexico City, 1928; George William Russell (AE), poet, Boonemouth, 1935; Billy Holiday, jazz singer, New York, 1959.
Punch was first published, 1841, Potsdam Conference, 1945.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Administration of Justice Bill, remaining stages.
Lords (2.30): Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol etc) Bill, report and third reading.

Pollen count

The pollen count for London and the South-East issued by the Asthma Research Council yesterday was 27, which is low. The outlook for the rest of the day is similar.

New books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:
Doublets, Studies in Literary History, by Karl Miller (Oxford, £19.50).
Holborn, The Paintings of Hans Holbein the Younger, by John Rowlands (Phaidon, £25).
R.E.S. Wyatt, Fighting Cricketer, by Gerald Pevie (Allen & Unwin, £12.95).
Spirit of the Firm, a view of Fordland Life Past and Present, by Edward Storey (Robert Hale, £9.95).
Slavery from Roman Times to the Early Transatlantic Trade, by William D. Phillips (Manchester University, £15.50).
The Frontier Souths, by Christopher Tranch (Cape, £15).
The Optim-Eating Editor, Thomas De Quincey and the *Westminster Gazette*, by Richard Casey (Westminster Gazette, £9.95 plus £1.25 pp).
The Statesman's Year-Book 122nd edition, 1982-83, edited by John Paxton (Macmillan, £22.50).
The Tansariak Tree, Vol. 3: Challenge to the Cold War, by Dora Russell (Virago, £12.95, paperback £5.95).
Treasures of the British Museum, by Marjorie Caygill (British Museum, £15).

Roads

Midlands: M5: Roadworks between exit 4 (Bromsgrove) and next junction 8 (M30 turn off). Hereford and Worcester: M54: Lane closures on both carriageways 24 hours a day between Raglan and the M4 junction 24, and of Usk interchange. A432: Lane closures on both carriageways between Raglan and the M4 junction 24, and of Usk interchange. A432: Lane closures on both carriageways between Raglan and the M4 junction 24, and of Usk interchange. A432: Lane closures on both carriageways between Raglan and the M4 junction 24, and of Usk interchange.

The papers

The Daily Star says that for a party that sets such great store by law and order, it is extraordinary that the Tories should now be in such a mess on this most vital issue. The paper says that the Tories are making strong speeches on the subject, "it says, 'Positive action is quite another matter. A new survey shows that an increasing number of people are too scared to go out at night - by no means all of them women. Car theft and burglary figures have almost ceased to be a constant. Indeed, they are reluctantly accepted as an unpleasant fact of modern life.' It quotes a report which reveals that judges had better be careful how they think and choose their words. Prisons are already bursting at the seams. Because little or no action has been taken to clear the cells of a lot of people who should not be taking up the space."

Forestry focus

To celebrate International Year of the Forest in Britain, a competition is being held in which photographers are invited to submit three 35mm slides, taken in Britain during 1985, which together sum up the importance of forests and woodland to man, to the environment and to wildlife of all kinds. They may cover just one aspect of forestry or a cross-section, but they will be judged as a set and should hold together as a mini-portfolio. Prizes include a Pentax 545 camera, holidays in the Forestry Commission's forest cabins and Pentax binoculars. Closing date for entries is November 15. Entries for the competition, sponsored by Pentax UK and Amateur Photographers, should be addressed to "Forests in Focus", Forestry Commission, 231 Corsierhill Road, Edinburgh EH12 7AT.

The pound

	Bank Rate	Bank Rate
Australia	2.25	2.25
Belgium	2.25	2.25
Canada	1.25	1.25
Denmark	1.25	1.25
France	1.25	1.25
Germany	1.25	1.25
Greece	1.25	1.25
Hong Kong	1.25	1.25
India	1.25	1.25
Italy	1.25	1.25
Japan	1.25	1.25
Netherlands	1.25	1.25
Portugal	1.25	1.25
Spain	1.25	1.25
Sweden	1.25	1.25
Switzerland	1.25	1.25
USA	1.25	1.25

Lighting-up time

London: 5.40 pm to 4.34 am.
Bristol: 5.40 pm to 4.44 am.
Edinburgh: 10.10 pm to 4.22 am.
Manchester: 5.40 pm to 4.33 am.
Penzance: 5.40 pm to 5.02 am.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: a. cloud; f. fair; h. rain; s. sun.
Belfast: 17.6 C; 63.7 F.
Blackburn: 16.8 C; 62.2 F.
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Wolverhampton: 16.8 C; 62.2 F.
Wrexham: 16.8 C; 62.2 F.

Weather Forecast

A depression in the Atlantic will move northwards, passing to N of Scotland with its associated troughs of low pressure crossing all areas.

6am to midnight

London, SE England, East Angles: Dry and bright at first, becoming cloudy later, with rain, some heavy, during the evening; wind SW moderate or fresh; max temp 16 to 20C (64 to 68F).
Central, E, SW, central N England, E, W Midlands, Channel Islands: Mostly dry at first, rain, some heavy, later wind SW moderate or fresh; max temp 17 to 19C (63 to 66F).
S, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Showers or longer periods of rain, some bright intervals, wind S or SW, strong at times; max temp 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).
Shetland: Cloudy, rain at times, wind S or SE, moderate increasing strong and perhaps reaching gale force at times; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).
Unsettled, with near normal temperatures.

SEA PASSAGES: North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind SW, moderate becoming strong later; sea slight becoming rough; English Channel: Wind SW, fresh becoming strong; sea moderate becoming rough; Celtic Sea: Wind SW, backing for a time, strong to gale; sea very rough.

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High tides

Location	Time	Height
London Bridge	12.15	2.2
Aberdeen	1.38	3.6
Aberystwyth	1.23	1.1
Belfast	11.51	2.3
Cardiff	1.25	1.0
Cardigan	1.25	1.0
Durham	1.25	1.0
Falmouth	1.25	1.0
Glasgow	1.25	1.0
Harwich	1.25	1.0
London	1.25	1.0
Liverpool	1.25	1.0
Manchester	1.25	1.0
Newcastle	1.25	1.0
Nottingham	1.25	1.0
Oxford	1.25	1.0
Penzance	1.25	1.0
Portsmouth	1.25	1.0
Sheffield	1.25	1.0
Southampton	1.25	1.0
Stoke	1.25	1.0
Sunderland	1.25	1.0
Tyneside	1.25	1.0
Wolverhampton	1.25	1.0
Wrexham	1.25	1.0

Around Britain

Around Britain

	Sun	Rain	C	Max		Sun	Rain	C	Max
Scarbroe	5.5	15	10	55	bright	Gwynedd	5.5	10	58
Widlington	5.7	20	65	59	sunny pm	Gilly Islands	7.0	18	64
Widford	5.5	15	10	55	sunny	Walsby	5.5	10	58
Lowestoft	5.8	17	16	58	rain	Warrimole	5.5	10	58
Clackner	5.2	14	21	54	sun	Tisbury	12.2	35	68
Worcester	5.4	16	16	57	sun	Southport	5.5	10	16
Folkestone	5.8	16	15	59	sunny am	Morescombe	3.1	35	19
Weymouth	5.2	15	18	57	sun	Widford	5.5	10	58
Widford	6.2	21	18	58	rain am	London (City)	6.5	14	22
Widford	6.2	21	18	58	rain am	London (City)	6.5	14	22
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